WEEK OF Jan. 22/07

ECCC Diamond Warriors

Ready to begin the 2007 season are the above members of the East Central Community College baseball squad. Team members and their respective high schools include (first row, from left) manager Justin Joyner, Newton County; outfielder Luke Baugh, Morton; right-handed pitcher/infielder Brian Jones, Allen County (Kentucky); catcher/third baseman/outfielder Lee Blackburn, Newton County Academy; outfielder/right-handed pitcher George Washington, Demopolis, Alabama; right-handed pitcher/utility player Terrell Hendrix, East Oktibbeha; middle infielder Colby Hawthorne, Pearl River Central; catcher/infielder Jacob Thames, Magee; outfielder John Harris, Morton; right-handed pitcher Josh Denson, Carthage; and manager Ben McCurdy, Morton; (second row, from left) Michael Avalon, assistant coach; student assistant Daniel Russell, Newton County Academy; middle infielder Jacob Casey, Union; third baseman/first baseman Adam Griffin, Neshoba Central; outfielder Katlan French, Starkville Academy; infielder Jordan Robinson, Union; left-handed pitcher Gregory Stovall, Neshoba Central; catcher/third baseman/second baseman Chad Gosselin, Brandon; outfielder/infielder Josh Lafferty, Quitman; Robert Martinez, assistant coach; and Neal Holliman, head coach; and (third row, from left) right-handed pitcher/utility player Robert Westbrook, Newton County; right-handed pitcher Joe Patterson, Morton; right-handed pitcher Josh Sheehan, Newton County; catcher Chris Parkman, Raleigh; right-handed pitcher Daven Willis, Choctaw Central; right-handed pitcher Jesus Aleman, Glades Day School, Belle Glade, Florida; right-handed pitcher Carey Miller, Louisville; right-handed pitcher/first baseman Kiel Higginbotham, Louisville; first baseman Jace Hamilton, Water Valley; catcher/infielder/outfielder Warren Bowling, Florence; and right-handed pitcher Daniel Carela, George Washington HS, New York, NY. Not shown is right-handed pitcher Earnesto Green of Jackson Provine. (EC Photo)

IMPACT

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

OTHER

Holliman...

Continued from B3...

to a talented freshman class – should provide a team fans will enjoy watching in 2007.

"We will compete from beginning to end and play with a lot of enthusiasm and togetherness," Holliman commented. "Our guys have gelled well together and look to be a true team that is concerned with one thing – winning!"

In addition to the positive response from his players, Holliman said he is also appreciative of the support received from the community.

"The community support has been above and beyond what we imagined. It really means a lot to our coaches and players that the community is supporting our efforts to build a successful baseball program." Holliman stated.

In addition to "rebuilding" the Warrior baseball program, Holliman and his staff have made various improvements to Jamie Clark Memorial Stadium.

"We've added concrete and rocks underneath the stands, designed a 'halo' around home plate, installed a new warning track, refurbished and painted the outfield fence, added new sideline fencing and foul poles, and painted the bleachers and batting cages," Holliman said.

With an improved team and facilities, Holliman said he hopes fans will share his excitement about the much anticipated 2007 season, which gets under way February 5 at Alabama Southern in Monroeville, Ala. The first home game doubleheader is scheduled February 13 against Jones County Junior College, beginning at 1 p.m.

"We anticipate a packed stadium for our home opener against Jones and for every home game as well. Fan support is vital to the success of any athletic program and we know our fans will turn out to watch the Diamond Warriors in 2007," Holliman said.

Serving as Holliman's assistants are former UWA assistant Michael Avalon, who serves as pitching coach and recruiting coordinator; former UWA player Roberto Martinez, whose duties include working with catchers, assisting with hitters, and serving as first base coach and assistant recruiting coordinator; and student assistant Daniel Russell, who will also assist with hitters and outfielders.

ECCC Diamond Warriors

Ready to begin the 2007 season are the above members of the East Central Community College baseball squ Team members include (first row, from left) manager Justin Joyner, outfielder Luke Baugh, right-handed pitcher/infielder Brian Jones, catcher/third baseman/outfielder Lee Blackburn, outfielder/right-handed pitch George Washington, right-handed pitcher/utility player Terrell Hendrix, middle infielder Colby Hawthorne. catcher/infielder Jacob Thames, outfielder John Harris, right-handed pitcher Josh Denson, and manager Be McCurdy, (second row) Michael Avalon, assistant coach; student assistant Daniel Russell, middle infielder Jacob Casey, third baseman/first baseman Adam Griffin, outfielder Katlan French, infielder Jordan Robins left-handed pitcher Gregory Stovall, catcher/third baseman/second baseman Chad Gosselin, outfielder/infiel Josh Lafferty, Robert Martinez, assistant coach; and Neal Holliman, head coach; and (third row) right-han pitcher/utility player Robert Westbrook, right-handed pitcher Joe Patterson, right-handed pitcher Josh Sheehan, catcher Chris Parkman, right-handed pitcher Daven Willis, right-handed pitcher Jesus Aleman, right-handed pitcher Carey Miller, right-handed pitcher/first baseman Kiel Higginbotham, first baseman J Hamilton, catcher/infielder/outfielder Warren Bowling, and right-handed pitcher Daniel Carela. Not shown right-handed pitcher Earnesto Green. *(EC photo)*

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Holliman era set for Feb. 5 debut

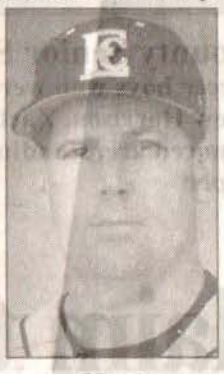
from school reports

When Neal Holliman arrived on the scene last summer as East Central Community College's new head baseball coach, he and his coaching staff had two major concerns: (1) Will team members be willing to adjust to a new way doing of things?, and (2) How much heart and effort will players be willing to put into the "new" program?

And following a successful fall campaign, Holliman said he is "very pleased" with the response from the Diamond Warriors, as the former University of West Alabama and ECCC assistant reflects on his short time as a new head coach.

"Fall practice went well," Holliman stated, following completion of a 6-2 campaign. "Our guys worked well together and adapted to the things we wanted them to do. Like everyone else, we had days that were not pleasing, but the effort and attitude have been good, and with these qualities we will continue to see improvement."

Holliman, an Aliceville, Ala., native who helped lead UWA to a Gulf South Conference title and was the late Jamie Clark's assistant when ECCC won a state championship in 1998, said his goal for the 2007 Diamond Warriors is simple: "We want to maximize this team's ability, like we will try to do with every other team. No one can guarantee where hard work will get you, but we all know that championships are not won without it."



Neal Holliman

Holliman said top returnees from last year's squad include three former Morton High School standouts — outfielders Luke Baugh and John Harris, and right-handed pitcher Joe Patterson; right-handed pitcher/infielder Chad Gosselin of Brandon; Jacob Thames, a catcher/infielder from Magee; third baseman/catcher Lee Blackburn, a product of Newton County Academy; right-handed pitcher Joshua Denson of Carthage; and Jordan Robinson of Union, who'll see action at third base, first base and catcher.

Baugh was named second-team All-State and was recognized as the Diamond Warriors' most improved player.

Holliman expects Harris to be a "major contributor" this year and describes Patterson as "a mainstay on the mound" for the Diamond Warriors.

Gosselin led the team in hitting this fall and "has shown the versatility to play several positions."

Thames, who led EC in hitting last year, is seeing action at catcher as well as his usual position at second base. "As a left-handed hitter, we need Jacob to match his efforts from last season and be a consistent contributor in the lineup."

Holliman said Blackburn, Denson and Robinson will play key leadership roles in the team's success.

The returning sophomores — in addition

Continued on B5...
See Holliman...

Bianco, Thames to highlight EC baseball banquet, Feb. 3

from school reports

Ole Miss head baseball coach Mike Bianco will be the featured speaker at a pre-season baseball banquet scheduled Saturday, Feb. 3 at East Central Community College in Decatur.

First-year ECCC head baseball coach Neal Holliman said the public is invited to attend the event, which begins at 6:30 p.m. in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Tickets are $15 for adults and $10 for children under 12.

"This (program) will be a great opportunity for all fans and parents to come meet the 2007 Warrior baseball team, along with the opportunity to hear remarks by coach Bianco, one of the most successful coaches in the nation."

Bianco has led the Ole Miss baseball program since June 2000. The Rebels posted back-to-back 40-win seasons in 2005 and 2006 for the first time in school history and won at least 35 games each of the last six seasons.

Ole Miss captured the Southeastern Conference Championship in 2006 after winning the SEC Western Division title the previous year.

The Rebels have made five post-season appearances in six years and served as host for three straight Regionals and consecutive Super Regionals in 2005 and 2006.

During Bianco's tenure as head coach, Ole Miss has produced 12 All-Americans and 28 players have been drafted by Major League Baseball.

Prior to beginning his successful coaching career, Bianco played two seasons at perennial power LSU in 1988 and 1989 and was the starting catcher and team captain for the 1989 squad that finished third at the College World Series in Omaha, Neb. He is also a former standout at Indian River Community College in Florida, and was inducted into the college's Hall in Fame in 2003.

He was a member of the LSU coaching staff from 1993-97 and helped lead the Tigers to three national tittles and four appearances in the College World Series.

Mike Bianco

He began his coaching career as a graduate assistant at Northwestern State in 1991 and 1992. His first head coaching job came in 1997 at McNeese State.

In addition to Bianco's remarks, Holliman said a special presentation will be made to ECCC alumnus and Louisville native Marcus Thames of the American League Champion Detroit Tigers.

"In recognition of his success in the major leagues and especially the outstanding season Marcus had this past year in helping lead the Detroit Tigers to the American League title and a trip to the World Series, we are retiring the number 24 jersey he wore as a player here in 1996 and 1997," Holliman stated.

Marcus Thames

Thames, an outfielder/designated hitter, posted a .256 batting average with 26 home runs and 60 RBIs in 2006. He received Player of the Game honors following Detroit's 4-3 win over the New York Yankees — his former team — in the second game of the division playoff series. He went 3-for-4 at the plate, scored twice and knocked in a run in the victory.

Thames was drafted by the Yankees in 1996 following his freshman year at East Central. However, he decided to continue his career with the Diamond Warriors, earning All-Region 23 and All-State honors in 1997.

After several seasons in the minor leagues, Thames finally got his break as a major leaguer in 2002 and took full advantage of the opportunity by blasting a home run on his first at-b as a Yankee and on the first pit from the defending National Leag Cy Young Award winner Ran Johnson in a matchup with t Arizona Cardinals.

Thames was traded to the Tex Rangers in 2003 and joined t Detroit Tigers in 2004.

The Diamond Warriors begin t 2007 season by traveling to Alabar Southern on Monday, Feb. 5 in do bleheader action beginning at no on the Monroeville, Ala., campus.

The first home games are sche uled with Jones County Jun College on February 13. The doub header gets under way at 1 p.m. Jamie Clark Memorial Stadium.

Serving as Holliman's assistants Michael Avalon and Roberto Martin

For more information, cont coach Neal Holliman, phone 6 635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-4 3222, ext. 374. The email addres nholliman@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF Jan. 29/07

Scott County 'Diamond Warriors'

These student athletes from Scott County are members of the 2007 East Central Community College baseball team. From left are outfielders Luke Baugh and John Harris, right-handed pitcher Joe Patterson and manager Ben McCurdy, all products of Morton High School. The Diamond Warriors are led by first-year head coach Neal Holliman. Competition begins February 5 at Alabama Southern. The first home games are scheduled Tuesday, February 13 against Jones County Junior College. Doubleheader action gets underway at 1 p.m. at Jamie Clark Memorial Stadium on the Decatur campus. (EC Photo)

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NEWTON RECORD _____

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WEEK OF Feb. 5/07

EC opens baseball with two losses

Special to The Record

Baseball season began on a disappointing note for the East Central Community College Diamond Warriors who were swept in doubleheader action Monday afternoon at Alabama-Southern in Monroeville, Ala.

EC was scoreless in both contests, losing 4-0 in the first game followed by a 3-0 decision in the nightcap.

First-year head coach Neal Holliman said his squad had opportunities to win both contests "if we could have generated a little offense."

Terrell Hendrix, a freshman right-handed hurler and product of East Oktibbeha High School in Starkville, took the loss in game one, as he allowed three runs on three hits through five innings of work. He fanned two batters and walked five. Freshman southpaw Gregory Stovall of Neshoba Central pitched in relief.

The Diamond Warriors managed just three hits in the seven-inning match-

See **ECCC**, Page 2B

ECCC

From Page 1B

up, all singles by Josh Lafferty of Quitman, Chris Parkman of Pulaski and a transfer from the University of West Alabama, and Warren Bowling of Florence, a transfer from Mississippi State University.

Brian Jones, a right-handed pitcher from Allen County High School in Adolphus, Ky., took the loss in game two. Jones gave up three runs on seven hits and fanned one batter in five innings of work. Right-hander Jesus Aleman of Belle Glade, Fla., who transferred from UWA, pitched one inning of relief and walked one.

Lafferty doubled an
Jordan Robinson of Unio
singled to lead EC hitters

The Diamond Warrior
travel to Bevill-Fayett
Friday in doubleheade
action getting under wa
at noon on the Fayette
Ala., campus. EC host
Jones County Junior Col
lege in a 1 p.m. double
header on Tuesday, Feb
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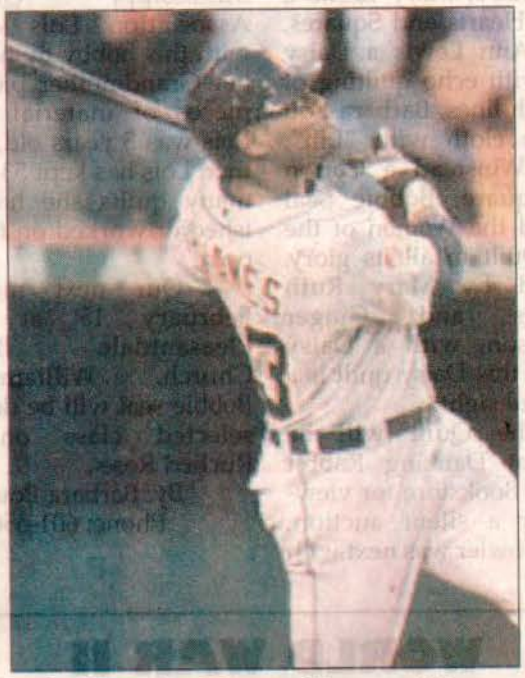
EC retires Thames' No. 24



Louisville native Marcus Thames of the Detroit Tigers watches the ball fly during a game last year. The former East Central Community College standout had his number retired by the Warriors Saturday night.
Photo by Chris Carlson/Associated Press

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

Marcus Thames joined a very select club Saturday night as his jersey No. 24 was retired in ceremonies at the preseason baseball banquet at East Central Community College.

Thames, a member of the 2006 American League champion Detroit Tigers, is the only living Warrior baseball player to have his number retired. The only other EC baseball member to have his jersey retired is the late Jamie Clark, Thames' coach for two memorable years at Decatur.

"It's amazing, coming from Louisville and running behind coach Clark's truck every morning around 6:15, I never thought my career would go this far," Thames said. "I just want to thank the coaches for making it possible to retire my number. I'm very honored to be a part of this.

"I'll never forget East Central. I love East Central. I always come back whenever I get a chance to. This is a very special night."

So special to Thames that he gave up a pair of Super Bowl tickets to attend the event.

Out of Louisville High School, Thames signed with ECCC where he was drafted by the New York Yankees in the 30th round following his freshman year.

Despite batting .382 with 14 doubles, seven triples, three homers, and 36 RBIs as a freshman in 1996, Thames opted to return for his sophomore year with the Warriors before inking with the Yankees prior to the 1997 draft.

Unlike most college players, Thames had limited experience prior to ECCC.

"I didn't get a chance to start in high school until my senior year," Thames said. "A lot of guys would have quit, but I stayed out there the whole time and hit .505 my senior year. I came here to East Central and coach Clark gave me a chance to play.

"I always played baseball growing up, but I never thought that I'd get drafted. When the Yankees called, I wanted to go back to school and hone my skills a little bit. I came back and got a little bit better."

In '97, the Warriors won 40 games with Thames' batting at a school record .420 clip. He set additional school records with 13 homers and 70 RBI.

"When you get drafted by the Yankees, you always want to take that and run with it, so I was happy to sign after my sophomore year," Thames said.

Labeled a prospect early in his professional career, some very productive years in the minor leagues earned him a grand total of 13 at-bats in the big leagues with New York. Two organizations later, Thames is showing he belongs in "The Show."

Tough Beginning

Compared to his early years, playing baseball is a breeze.

Thames' mother, Veterine, was paralyzed in an auto accident when he was just 5. He joined the National Guard later on to help make ends meet.

"It made me physically and mentally stronger. It makes you a man, it makes you more responsible," Thames said of his military experience.

Knowing his mom was able to raise five children despite her condition serves as Thames' inspiration.

"My mom is a big inspiration in my life. In June, she'll

APPEARED IN:

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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have been paralyzed 25 years. I look at her — a person who can't even get themselves a glass of water — and what I go through in baseball is nothing compared to what she's going through.

"She's a very strong person and she keeps me going."

Quite a Debut

On June 10, 2002, Thames made his Major League debut in impressive fashion, taking his first pitch over the wall at Yankee Stadium. The blast came off Arizona ace Randy Johnson, who had won the National League Cy Young Award the previous year.

"He's a future Hall of Famer. He was a guy I had seen growing up striking a lot of people out. When I hit it, I was praying that it went over the fence. I got around the bases pretty quick," Thames said.

"There were 56,000 at Yankee Stadium that night and I had never had a standing ovation. Mr. (Joe) Torre and Derek Jeter pushed me out of the dugout and told me they wanted me to come out for a curtain call. I went out and it was amazing. I had tears in my eyes. I won't ever forget it."

2006 World Series

The Tigers' 2006 season was capped by a berth in the World Series where Detroit lost in five games to the St. Louis Cardinals.

"It's a kid's dream," Thames said of playing in the fall classic. "Playing in the country fields at home with my friends, making bases out of paper sacks, I never thought I'd play in a World Series.

"The day we played St. Louis that first game ... I never thought that I'd be standing on the first base line for the national anthem for the World Series."

During the regular season, Thames, 29, batted .256 in 110 games with 20 doubles, two triples, 26 homers, and 60 RBI.

"I'm still under contract with Detroit," Thames said. "I've trained hard this offseason. I don't worry about what's going to happen. I just try to control what I can control and play hard and work hard when I get to spring training.

"We picked up Gary Sheffield and that's a great pickup for the team. Hopefully, I can be with that organization and help them out some."

WEEK OF Feb. 5/07

EC retires Thames's jersey number

(EC PHOTO)

The number "24" will never again be worn by an East Central Community College baseball player after first-year head baseball coach Neal Holliman (left) officially retired the jersey number of former Diamond Warrior Marcus Thames (second from left) of the Detroit Tigers during the College's pre-season baseball banquet held Saturday night on the Decatur campus. Thames, also shown with his wife, Danna, had his best season as a major leaguer for the 2006 American League champions, as he posted a .256 batting average with 26 home runs and 60 RBIs. The Louisville native earned All-American, All-Region 23 and All-State honors after helping lead the 1997 Diamond Warriors to a record-setting 40 wins and just 18 losses and a state runner-up title. Thames, who also received the team's most valuable player award in 1997, posted a .420 batting average, which still stands as the highest recorded average for an EC player. He also set a single season mark for home runs (13) and RBIs (70). Thames was originally drafted by the New York Yankees and later traded to the Texas Rangers before joining the Tigers organization in 2004.

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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WEEK OF Feb. 19/07

EC splits with N'west, sweeps Jones

Special to The Record

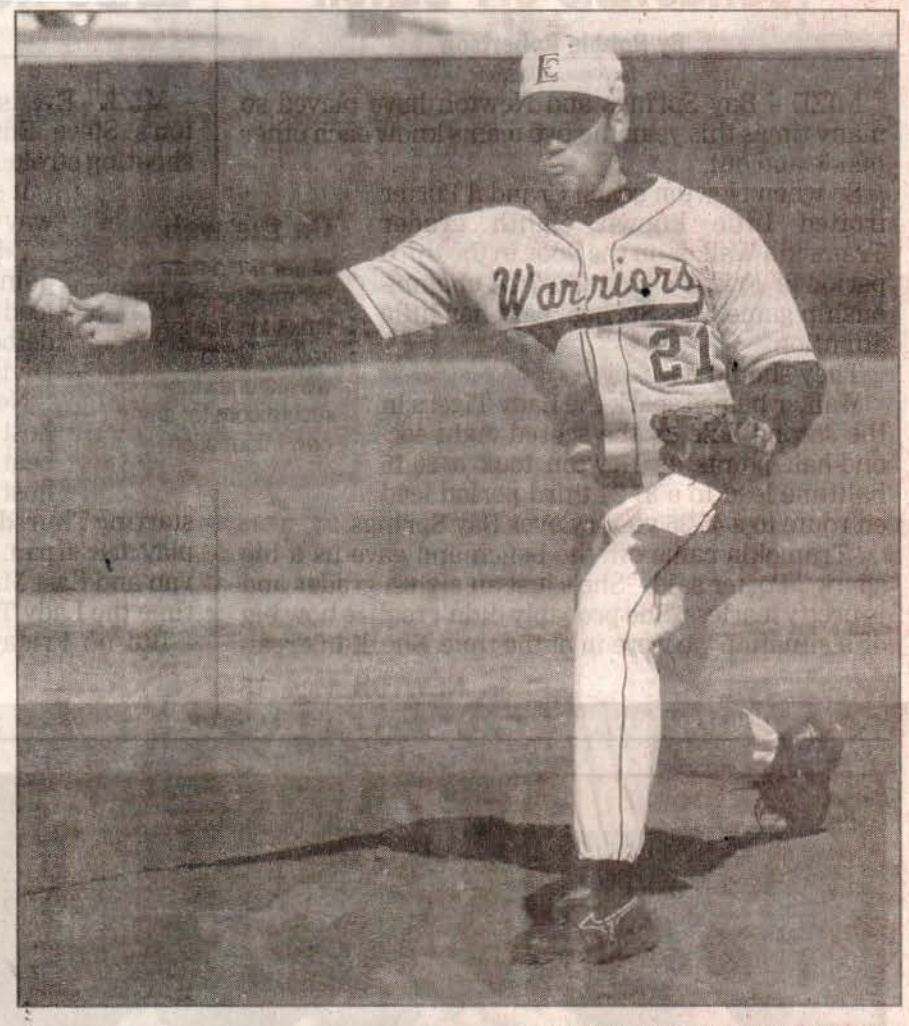
East Central Community College's baseball squad won three of its first four home games in 2007 as the Diamond Warriors split a doubleheader with Northwest Mississippi Community College on Friday after earning a pair of wins from Jones County Junior College on Tuesday, Feb. 13.

With the three victories, the ECCC squad improved to 3-4 under first-year head coach Neal Holliman.

In the split with Northwest, the Rangers rallied for three runs in the top of the seventh to claim an 11-9 decision in the opener, and the Diamond Warriors scored twice in the bottom of the sixth to break a 4-4 deadlock and held on for the 6-4 victory in the nightcap.

Jesus Aleman, a transfer from the University of West Alabama and Belle Glade, Fla., resident, took the loss for EC, as he allowed three runs on three hits in one-and-a-third innings. Brian Jones, a product of Allen County High School in Adolphus, Ky., pitched 2/3 of an inning and gave up three runs on four hits. Joe Patterson of Morton was the starting pitcher for EC, allowing four runs on seven hits through five innings of work. He also fanned three batters and walked one.

Top EC hitters were George Washington of Demopolis, who homered, collected three RBIs and scored twice; John Harris of Morton, two singles and two runs scored; and Chris Parkman of Pulaski, who also hit two singes and scored twice. Washington and Parkman are transfers from Central Alabama Community College and the University of West Alabama, respectively.



ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

East Central Community College's Joe Patterson, a sophomore from Morton, delivers a pitch to the plate Wednesday against Northwest in Decatur.

In the second game, Josh Denson of Carthage earned the win, allowing no runs on three hits through two innings. Starter Gregory Stovall of Neshoba Central pitched five innings and allowed two earned runs on five hits. He also fanned four batters and walked four.

Jordan Robinson and Jacob Casey, both of Union, were the top hitters for EC with two singles each. Casey also scored two runs and Robinson scored once.

In the sweep of Jones, EC won the first contest by a 5-4 margin and posted a 4-2 decision in the nightcap.

Washington was the offensive standout in the opener as he homered and tripled, collected three RBIs and scored twice.

Aleman tossed three innings in relief and picked up the win, allowing two hits and one run.

Washington homered again in the nightcap and Casey singled, scored three times and walked twice to lead the offensive attack.

The winning pitcher was Daniel Carela, a product of Washington High School in New York. Carela allowed three hits through five innings. Jones fanned four batters in two innings of work to record the save.

East Central travels to Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College in Perkinston on Thursday and will be guests of Southwest Mississippi Community College in Summit on Saturday. Both doubleheaders begin at 1 p.m. The Diamond Warriors have a rematch with Beville-Fayette beginning at 3 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 27. EC fell twice to Beville (3-2, 9-4) in the second match-up of the 2007 campaign.

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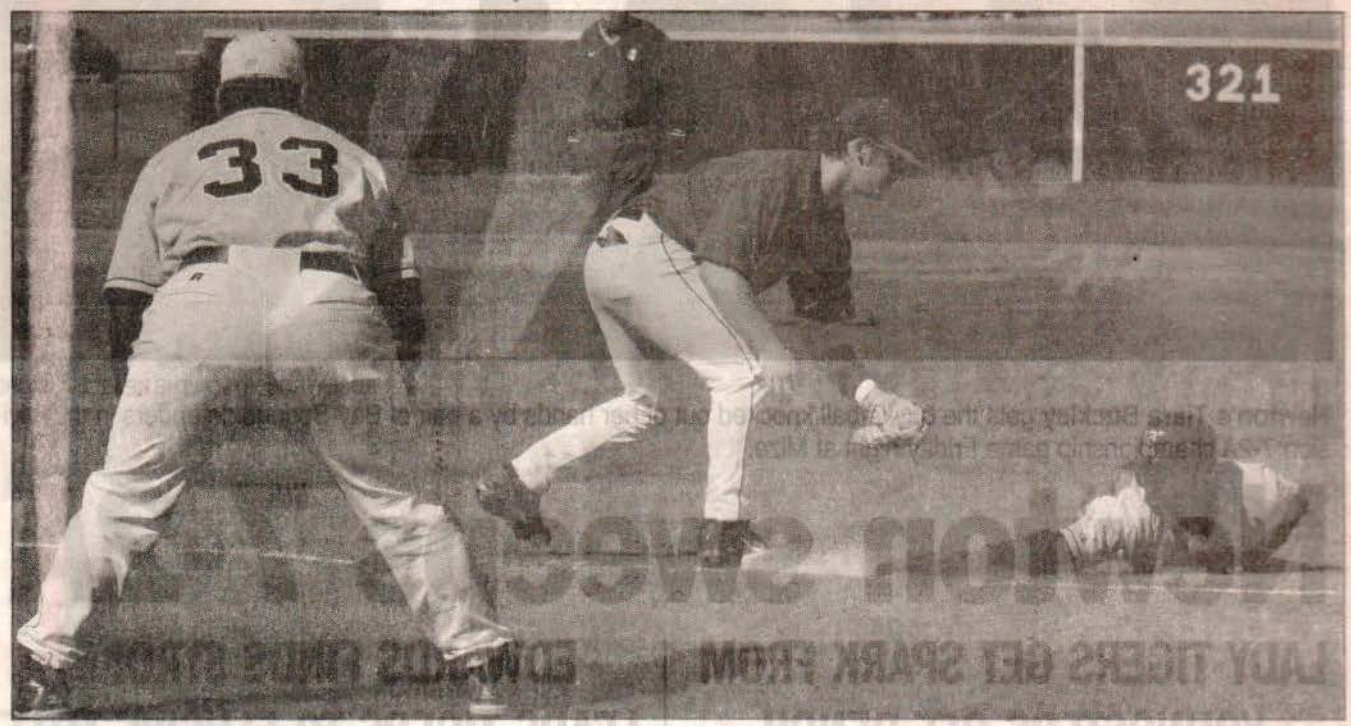
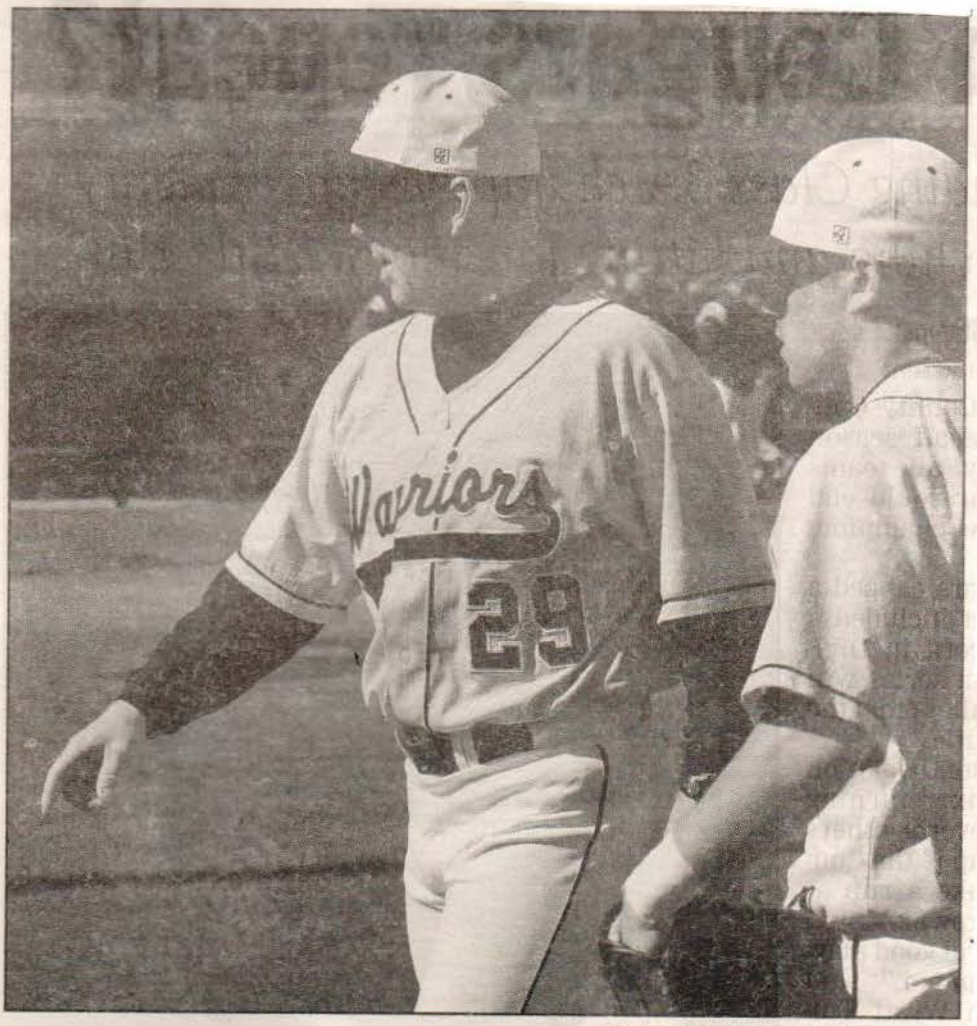
JUCO BASEBALL





ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

East Central baseball coach Neal Holliman walks off the field after an inning against Northwest Community College earlier this season.

Holliman

From Page 2

Holliman said above anything else, the Warriors are going to work hard. And they don't need to look any farther than their head man for that leadership.

Take this summer for instance. After coming in late, Holliman spent a good part of the summer working on Jamie Clark Field, making improvements there.

Just before high schools started practicing football, The Newton Record hosted its annual coaches golf tournament. I invited all the high school football coaches in the county as well as the coaches from East Central. Since Neal was new, I wanted to make sure he knew about the event and perhaps get a morning away.

Holliman called me the day before the tournament and told me he wouldn't be able to play because they would be busy installing a new warning track at the baseball field. I told him that even if he didn't have time to play, I would like for him to come eat a steak on us. He said he would try to make it.

The golf tournament came and went and Holliman never showed, not even for steaks. But that was OK, I knew he had something else to do that day. Instead of golf and steaks, it was shovels and back-breaking work. That showed me that Holliman has what it takes to win at this, or any level.

So don't be surprised when Holliman wins. It might not be this year but it will be soon because things can change quickly in the world of junior college baseball.

And while he may not have the advantages of Meridian Community College, he certainly has the work ethic it takes to compete with the big boys. And in many cases, work ethic will overcome talent. It's usually just a matter of time.

Robbie Robertson is editor and publisher of The Newton Record.

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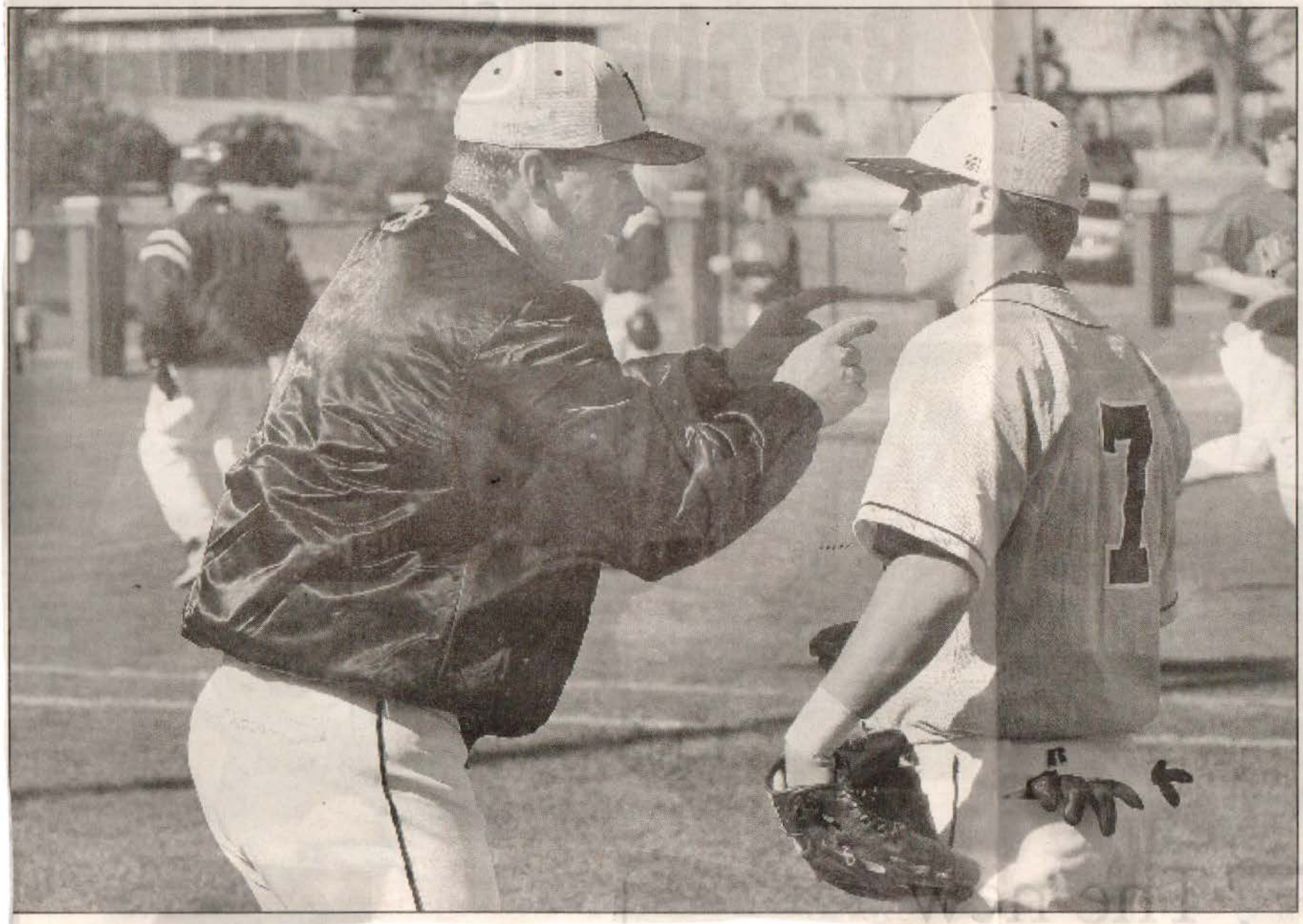

East Central Community College coach Neal Holliman talks with second baseman Colby Hawthorne about a play he made in the field. Holliman is in his first year at East Central, after coach for former coach Jamie Clark and spending the last few years as an assistant at the University of West Alabama. In his short time at East Central, Holliman has brought a new intensity to the Warriors program.

Holliman brings work ethic to East Central program

In coaching, one man's problems are another man's opportunities. Take East Central Community College baseball coach Neal Holliman for instance.

To start with, Holliman took over an East Central program that seemed to be in ruins. The Warriors won just 13 games last year and seemed to play with the least amount of effort I've seen in some time on a college baseball field.

In Holliman's eyes, the Warriors were desperately behind when it came to facilities.

And then the biggest challenge is probably location. The Warriors are just 25 miles from Meridian and the junior college juggernaut that is MCC baseball. Not only are the Warriors battling MCC's reputation for winning and player development, but the Warriors are facing one of the greatest inequities in college recruiting.

Robbie Robertson

In junior college baseball, Mississippi junior colleges may protect players in their district. That means those players are assured scholarships and are "protected" from being recruited from other state junior colleges, except for Meridian. The Eagles can recruit the entire state and sign players off of anybody's protected list. To top that, MCC can also talk with prospects before other junior colleges in the state can, often leaving schools like East Central behind in the recruiting process. The net result is often that the top players from East Central's five-county recruiting district that don't go to a four-year school often sign with the Eagles.

So how does Holliman feal about that?

"First of all, we want people who want to be here," Holliman said. "You're never going to hear me say anything negative about Meridian. They've got a great program. I can't be concerned about what Meridian is doing. I've got to be concerned about what East Central is doing."

Honestly, it would be easy and justified to complain and moan about Meridian's unfair recruiting advantage but don't expect to hear any of that from Holliman.

Instead of complaining, Holliman spends his time working. Holliman was an assistant on West Alabama's Gulf South Conference championship team last year. In many ways, West Alabama is much like East Central. UWA has to deal with national powers Delta State and North Alabama. And let's face it, Livingston, Ala., isn't the easiest place to attract recruits. Having covered the GSC before, winning at West Alabama isn't impossible but certainly takes a little more work.

Such is the case at East Central. Winning here isn't impossible but it's certainly a challenge. It's can be done. Late coach Jamie Clark has won the Region 23 championship before and former coach Jake Yarbrough was only two years removed from a remarkable Region 23 title run.

See **HOLLIMAN**, Page 3

2007 Baseball & Softball

The new Face of East Central Baseball

Neal Holliman brings a new determination and work ethic to East Central baseball

Can the Cougars repeat in 3A?

WEEK OF Feb. 26/07

ECCC Diamond Warriors split pair with Gulf Coast

From Press Reports

Sophomore John Harris of Morton collected three hits, an RBI and scored a run in leading East Central Community College to 6-2 victory in the first game of a doubleheader with Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Thursday in Perkinston. The host Bulldogs took the nightcap by an 8-3 margin.

In addition to Harris, other top hitters were Brian Jones, a product of Allen County High School in Adolphus, Ky, and Adam Griffin of Neshoba Central. Jones homered and collected two RBIs, and Griffin doubled, singled and had one RBI.

Joe Patterson of Morton got the win for EC, as he pitched three scoreless innings and fanned two batters. Starter Terrell Hendrix, a product of East Oktibbeha High School in Starkville, hurled three innings, allowing one run on four hits. Hendrix fanned three batters and walked three. Josh Sheehan of Newton County pitched the final inning, allowing one run on two hits. He also fanned one batter.

In the second contest, George Washington was the offensive standout as he belted a two-run homer. Washington, a Demopolis, Ala., native, is a transfer from Central Alabama Community College.

Josh Denson of Carthage picked up the loss for EC. Denson, whose record evened at 1-1, pitched just one inning, allowing three runs on one hit. He also walked three batters.

The Diamond Warriors, whose record stands a 4-6 under first-year head coach Neal Holliman, travel to Southwest Mississippi Community College Saturday afternoon in doubleheader action getting underway at 1 p.m. on the Summit campus.

EC hosts Bevill-Fayette beginning at 3 p.m. Tuesday and will be looking to avenge a doubleheader loss earlier in the season.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

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IMPACT _____

WEEK OF March 5/07

8A, The Neshoba Democrat, Philadelphia, Miss., March 7, 2007

ECCC Diamond Warriors take pair from Bevill - Fayette

East Central Community College's baseball squad evened its record to 6-6 following a doubleheader sweep of Bevill-Fayette February 27 on the Decatur campus.

The Diamond Warriors pounded 11 hits to take the first contest by a 7-2 margin and cruised to an 11-4 victory in the nightcap. The victories avenged an earlier doubleheader loss (3-2, 9-4) on the Fayette, Ala., campus.

Southpaw Gregory Stovall of Neshoba Central got the win in the opener, as he pitched five scoreless innings and allowed just two hits. He also fanned three batters and walked two. Right-handers Josh Denson of Carthage and George Washington of Demopolis, Ala., pitched an inning each. Denson allowed two runs on one hit and walked one batter, and Washington, a transfer from Central Alabama Community College, gave up one hit and fanned one batter.

Washington, Jacob Thames of Magee and Brian Jones, a product of Allen County High School in Adolphus, Ky., had two hits each to lead the Diamond Warrior offensive attack. Singles each were recorded by Josh Lafferty of Quitman, John Harris of Morton and Mississippi State University transfer Warren Bowling of Florence. Thames also collected two RBIs and Harris knocked in a run. Jones and Washington also scored twice.

East Central scored four runs in the first inning, one in the fifth and two in the sixth. The visitors scored their two runs in the seventh inning.

Right-hander Joe Patterson of Morton improved his record to 2-1 as EC completed the sweep. Patterson allowed four runs on four hits through five innings of work. He also fanned five batters and walked one. Right-handers Jesus Aleman of Belle Glade, Fla., and Earnesto Green, a product of Jackson Provine, pitched an inning each. Aleman, a transfer from the University of West Alabama, fanned one batter and walked one, and Green allowed two hits.

Terrell Hendrix, a product of East Oktibbeha High School in Starkville, led the Diamond Warriors at the plate with three singles and one RBI. He also scored two runs. Harris and Chris Parkman of Pulaski had doubles each and collected two RBIs apiece. Parkman, a transfer from the University of West Alabama, also scored a run. Warren Bowling of Florence also doubled and scored twice. Washington singled and knocked in a run and Chad Gosselin of Brandon singled.

East Central scored two runs in the first inning, three in the second, two in the third, one in the fourth and three in the fifth.

Bevill-Fayette tallied once in the second inning and scored three runs in the third.

The Diamond Warriors host Itawamba Community College beginning at 3 p.m. Saturday and will participate in a one-day tournament Sunday, March 4 in Shreveport, La. ECCC travels to Wallace-Selma Tuesday. Doubleheader action gets underway at 1 p.m. on the Selma, Ala., campus.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF March 5/07

Warriors split with Itawamba, Oklahoma teams

from school reports

East Central Community College's baseball team earned split decisions with Oklahoma squads in competition held Sunday in Shreveport, La., and split a doubleheader with Itawamba Community College Saturday on the Decatur campus.

The Diamond Warriors, whose record stands at 8-8 under first-year head coach Neal Holliman following the weekend series, fell 2-0 in the first contest to Eastern Oklahoma State College despite a standout performance by southpaw Gregory Stovall of Neshoba Central who allowed just two hits and rallied for a 6-0 shutout over Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College in the nightcap.

EC also out-hit Eastern Oklahoma by a 5-2 margin, with Adam Griffin leading the offensive attack with two singles. Jacob Casey of Union and Jacob Thames both had singles.

The 12-5 Mountaineers of Eastern Oklahoma scored their two runs in the second inning.

Stovall (1-2), who pitched six innings prior to being relieved by Jordan Robinson of Union, fanned four batters and walked three.

Against the 7-6 Golden Norsemen of NEO, EC bats came alive for eight hits with George Washington of Demopolis, Ala., leading the offense. Washington, a transfer from Central Alabama Community College, had three singles and two RBIs. Griffin doubled, and Casey, Brian Jones, Colby Hawthorne, John Harris, and Terrell Hendrix each singled. Jones also collected two RBIs, and Casey and Harris knocked in a run apiece.

Joe Patterson of Morton was the winning pitcher, improving his record to 3-1. Patterson, a sophomore right-hander, allowed six hits in the seven-inning performance. He fanned four batters and walked two.

Itawamba	**7-7**
ECCC	**6-8**

In Saturday's matchups with Itawamba, EC rallied for an 8-7 decision in the second contest to gain a split.

Washington and Chad Gosselin led the Diamond Warrior offense in the first game. Washington had two singles and an RBI, and Gosselin doubled and singled. Hawthorne also doubled and Casey singled. Gosselin and Hawthorn also scored two runs each and Casey tallied once.

EC scored one run the first inning, two in the second, and three in sixth to claim the victory.

The visiting Indians scored twice in the third inning and added five runs in the fourth.

Hendrix and Jones were on the mound for EC. Hendrix pitched three innings, allowing five runs on four hits. He also fanned three batters and walked one. Jones pitched the final four innings, allowing two runs on one hit. He struck out two batters and walked one.

In the second contest, the Diamond Warriors used a six-run fifth inning to erase a 7-1 deficit and claim the victory.

Casey led the EC offense with a double, single, and an RBI. Robinson also doubled, and singles were recorded by Griffin, Hawthorne and Jones in the come-from-behind win.

On the mound for EC were Jesus Aleman, who allowed five runs on three hits through four innings of work; Daniel Carela pitched one-third of an inning and allowed two runs on one hit; Josh Denson allowed no runs and two hits in 1 2/3 innings; and Washington, who gave up no runs in one inning.

EC hosts Gulf Coast on Saturday at 1 p.m. in a doubleheader on the Decatur campus.

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WEEK OF March 12/07

ECCC Diamond Warriors Split Doubleheader

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR—East Central Community College's baseball squad split a doubleheader with Wallace-Selma Community College Tuesday (March 6) afternoon on the Selma, Ala., campus.

The Diamond Warriors cruised to an 11-2 victory in the first game but dropped a 5-1 decision in the nightcap.

East Central, whose record stands at 9-9 under first-year head coach Neal Holliman, was led offensively in the opener by Terrell Hendrix of Starkville, who doubled and singled, and scored three runs.

George Washington of Demopolis, Ala., collected a triple and two RBIs and scored once. John Harris of Morton, Jacob Casey of Union, Warren Bowling of Florence and Brian Jones of Adolphus, Ky., had singles each. Harris also scored two runs and Bowling scored once. Bowling was also credited with two RBIs.

Right-hander Earnesto Green of Jackson Provine earned his first victory of the season, allowing one run on four hits. Green, who recently completed his career as a member of the Warrior basketball team, fanned five batters and walked none through four innings of work.

Right-hander Josh Denson of Carthage hurled three innings in relief, allowing one run on one hit. He also walked one batter.

East Central scored three runs in the first inning, three in the fifth, one in the sixth and four in the seventh in registering the easy victory. Wallace-Selma tallied one run in the second and one in the sixth.

In the second contest, Diamond Warrior sluggers were Chris Parkman of Union, double and RBI; and Jordan Robinson of Union, Josh Lafferty of Quitman, Colby Hawthorn of McNeil, Harris, Casey and Hendrix, singles each.

Right-hander Daniel Carela, a product of George Washington High School in New York, took the loss, as he allowed two runs on four hits. He also fanned four batters and walked one through four innings of work. Right-hander Jesus Aleman of Belle Glade, Fla., pitched two innings, allowing three runs on four hits. He fanned one batter.

East Central scored its lone run in the sixth inning.

Next up for the Diamond Warriors is Pearl River Community College at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 17.

APPEARED IN:

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IMPACT _____

PHOTO BY PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN

SAFE AT HOME

Meridian Community College's Toddrick Stevenson scores a run for the Eagles as East Central Community College's Chris Parkman tries to keep his foot on the plate to force an out Saturday afternoon.

Eagles keep rolling along, sweep ECCC

By Robby Atkinson
special to The Star

The Meridian Community College Eagles continued their amazing run through the 2007 season by taking a doubleheader sweep (6-1,6-4) over MACJC Central Division rival East Central on Saturday at Scaggs Field.

"When you can get a pair of wins in conference play it is always key," said MCC head coach Chris Rose. "We had a great pair of pitching performances and we had several guys in the lineup that had great days at the plate."

The Eagles improved 23-5 overall on the 2007 season and moved its conference record to 4-0. MCC will return to action on Monday as the Eagles travel to Tuscaloosa to take on Shelton State in a doubleheader. The first pitch for the doubleheader is scheduled for 4 p.m.

Meridian	**6**
East Central	**1**

Meridian got a solid pitching performance from sophmore Lee Swindle and a six-run fifth inning to take the game one win over the Warriors.

Swindle (4-1) tossed five strong innings for the Eagles and collected seven strikeouts.

"It was a very dominant performance," said Rose. "This was a great start for him and he did a great job of locating pitches and getting some big outs for us."

The game remained scoreless for the first four innings until the Eagles scored all of its runs in the fifth inning to take a 6-0 lead.

David Woods led the inning off with an infield single and Toddrick Stevenson followed with a double to left to put a pair of runners aboard for the Eagles. Matt Holliman reached base on a walk to load the bases and the first run of the game scored on a hit by pitch of Michael Guerrero to give the Eagles the 1-0 lead.

Tyler Moore followed with an RBI fielder's choice and Jarrod Park added an RBI single to give MCC a 3-0 lead over ECCC. Scott Mosley knocked in a run for Meridian on a bunt single and another pair of runs scored on an error by the Warriors to give MCC a 6-0 lead.

PHOTO BY PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN

FORCED OUT

East Central Community College's Jacob Thames forces out Meridian Community College's Drew Snider as he looks to throw to first base Saturday afternoon.

The only run for the Warriors came on a double by Chad Gosselin.

Meridian	**6**
East Central	**4**

Meridian used a five run second inning and a complete g pitching performance by Ke Martin to take the two-run w game two.

See Eagles
Page D4

WEEK OF March 19/07

Lions

From Page B1

The Lions played flawless in the field in Game 2 after tallying seven errors in the opener.

"I don't know what happened in the first game, but that just wasn't us playing," McGill said.

The Lions got their first run in the top of the fourth as A.J. Freeman led off with a double and scored on a sacrifice fly by Cameron Jourdan. EMCC made it 2-0 in the fifth as Ben Fleming hit a one-out double in the right-field corner and scored on a single to right by Brock Mosley.

The Lions had seven hits with Mosley getting three and Fleming two.

Brian Jones and Chad Gosselin both had two singles for the Warriors.

"We just didn't hit," said ECCC assistant coach Michael Avalon. "(Love) pitched well. He competed. We knew that they were a different team with him on the mound. They beat us with him on the mound."

Gregory Stovall (1-3) was the hard-luck loser.

In the opener, the Warriors took advantage of EMCC's defense to score three unearned runs in the first inning. Jacob Casey led off with a single and scored all the way from first when Lion pitcher Cam Bane fielded a bunt by Terrell Hendrix and fired it well over the first baseman. Hendrix wound up at third and scored on an error by Love on a grounder by Jones. George Washington singled and scored the first of his four runs on a sacrifice fly by Gosselin.

EMCC closed to within 3-1 in the top of the third as Wayne Presley led off with a double and came home on a single by Josh Rone.

The Warriors answered with four runs on two hits in the bottom of the third.

The key hit was a two-run double by Jacob Thames. Jordan Robinson went from home to third on another infield error by EMCC and scored on a sacrifice fly by Chris Parkman.

The Warriors took a 9-1 lead in the fourth as Hendrix reached on a single and Washington hit a one-out double before the Lions committed two more errors.

EMCC got three runs in the top of the sixth with Freeman hitting an RBI double and Fleming and Mosley each having a sacrifice fly.

ECCC made it 10-4 in the bottom of the sixth as Washington went from home to third on a throwing error on his bunt and scored on a sacrifice fly by Gosselin.

The Lions jumped on the ECCC bullpen for four runs in the top of the seventh and had the tying run on base when Hendrix recorded the final out to earn a save.

The big blow for the Lions was a three-run double by Mosley. Fleming also had an RBI single in the frame.

"It just came down to throwing strikes in the end," Avalon said. "We just can't relax because of the scoreboard. We've got to play the game, not the scoreboard. That's what we tell them all the time."

Jesus Aleman (3-1) tossed the first 5 2/3 innings to get the win. Through five frames, he had allowed just two hits and had seven strikeouts. The Lions chased him with three hits in the three-run sixth.

Bane took the loss for EMCC.

ECCC had seven hits with Washington getting two. Thames had three RBIs.

The Lions had eight hits with Freeman getting two. Mosley had four RBIs.

Lions split twinbill with East Central Warriors

By Marty Stamper

special to The Star

DECATUR — After losing 10-8 in the first game of their Central Division doubleheader with East Central Community College Tuesday afternoon, the East Mississippi Community College Lions needed something good to happen in the nightcap.

That something good came in the form of sophomore pitcher Walt Love, who tossed a six-hit shutout as the Lions came away with a 2-0 win.

East Mississippi's record went to 16-10 overall and 1-1 in division play.

East Central's went to 12-14 and 1-1.

"Walt Love is our No. 1 pitcher. He's our ace," said EMCC assistant coach Kenny McGill, who was filling in for Lions' head coach Tony Montgomery, who suffered an injury to his left knee in Monday's practice and was unable to attend the games.

"We're just real proud of the way he throws. He pitches hard.

"We want to dedicate this win to coach Montgomery for being injured and out today."

Love (5-1) was so dominant that ECCC got only three runners past first base.

It was Love's sixth complete game this spring. For the year, he's allowed only two earned runs.

See **Lions**
Page B4

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UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

EC sweeps NE; swept by River

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

It was either feast or famine for the East Central Community College Warriors on the baseball diamond last week as they swept Northeast Mississippi Community College 7-3 and 19-4 before being shut out twice at Pearl River Community College by 2-0 and 13-0 margins.

The Warriors, 11-13, launched Central Division play on Tuesday against East Mississippi Community College and will continue league play at Meridian Community College on Saturday with a 1 p.m. start.

ECCC	**7-19**
Northeast	**3-4**

The Warriors took the term "big inning" to the extreme in sweeping Northeast on March 13 at Decatur.

In the opener, the Warriors scored six runs in the bottom of the sixth inning to erase a 3-1 Northeast lead.

That paled in comparison to the second inning of the nightcap as the Warriors racked up 14 of their 19 runs in the frame to even their record at 11-11.

"We haven't done that all year and we needed that," said EC head coach Neal Holliman. "We're not a team that's going to put up several big innings, but it's good to be able to let your hair down and breathe a little bit every now and then too. We've been in so many tight ballgames."

In the opener, the Warriors got half of their eight hits in the bottom of the sixth to take a 7-3 lead over the Tigers. Terrell Hendrix tied the game at 3-3 with a two-run double to right field. Brian Jones singled up the middle to put EC up 4-3. George Washington's three-run homer to right field enabled the Warriors to pull away.

Josh Denson (3-0) got the win with 2 1/3 innings of relief.

Washington also had a double and finished with four RBIs. Jones had a pair of singles, while Hendrix had a single and a two-run double.

In the second game, the Warriors paraded 19 batters to the plate in the second inning debacle. EC got eight hits in the frame, along with five walks, three hit batsmen, and three passed balls.

Jones had an RBI single and a three-run double in the uprising with Hendrix and Jordan Robinson both getting a two-run single. Jacob Casey, Warren Bowling and Jacob Thames each had RBI singles. Chad Gosselin had a sacrifice fly.

Jones finished with three hits and five RBIs. Hendrix had three singles and a pair of RBIs. Bowling had a pair of RBI singles. Thames had two hits and two RBIs. Gosselin had two RBIs.

Jesus Aleman (2-1) went four innings to get the win.

Pearl River	**2-13**
ECCC	**0-0**

The Warriors never crossed the plate as they were swept Saturday at Poplarville. EC fell to 11-13 with the losses.

EC had just three hits in the opener — a single each by Terrell Hendrix, George Washington, and Josh Lafferty.

Pearl River had only five hits off EC's Joe Patterson.

The Wildcats scored both of their runs in the third inning.

In the second contest, EC hitters were Washington with two singles and Jacob Casey, Hendrix, and Jordan Robinson with one single each.

Hendrix took the loss.

PRCC scored five runs in the first inning and pulled away.

Members of the 2007 East Central Community College baseball squad from Newton County schools are (kneeling from left) manager Justin Joyner, pitcher Josh Shehan, and middle infielder Jacob Casey. Standing are catcher/third baseman/outfielder Lee Blackburn, infielder Jordan Robinson, and pitcher/utility player Robert Westbrook. *(EC Photo)*

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East Central takes division pair from East Mississippi

By Marty Stamper
Special to The Star

DECATUR — The East Central Community College Lady Warriors got solid performances in all three phases of the game as they poked their noses above .500 with an 8-0, 4-1 MACJC Central Division sweep of East Mississippi Community College Saturday.

ECCC improved to 16-14 overall and 4-0 in the Central Division. EMCC dropped to 3-16 and 1-5.

In the two games, ECCC got two strong pitching performances from Kady Chandler, banged out 22 hits and committed just one error in 13 innings.

Chandler struck out seven and allowed one walk and no hits in five innings in the opener. In the second game, she gave up two hits and fanned eight with no walks.

"I think we came out focused and ready to play," ECCC coach Scott Hill said. "I was hoping that would be the case with this being two division ball games.

"We hit the ball well and I can't say enough about Kady Chandler doing a great job for us on the mound. She kept them off-balance and got some strikeouts. I can think of two real big strikeouts where it looked like they might score a run here or there. I'm real proud of her effort.

"And I'm real proud of us defensively and offensively."

In the opener, the Lady Warriors took a 1-0 lead in the first inning as Loren Kennedy beat out a bunt single, moved up on a single by Shenique Brass, and scored when Brass got caught in a rundown on a double steal.

The Lady Warriors broke the game open with five runs in the third. Sondreia Hillie hit a two-out single and Brass followed with a two-run homer to left field. After a walk to Whitnee White, Laura Smith, Candace Griffin, Tiffany Thomas and Jessica Shannon delivered consecutive singles with Griffin driving in one run and Shannon plating two.

ECCC took a 7-0 lead in the fifth as White led off with a ground-rule double and scored on a sacrifice fly by Thomas.

Lindsey Stevens ended the game with a solo blast to left field to lead off the bottom of the sixth.

Nicole Lanthier took the loss. The Lady Lions' only hit was a single by Kristie Owens off reliever Kimbo Seale in the top of the sixth.

EMCC had only three baserunners as Chandler retired 13 in a row from the first through the fifth innings.

ECCC had 11 hits with Brass and White both getting two. Each offensive starter had at least one hit.

The Lady Warriors went up 2-0 in the first inning of the second game as Kennedy led off with a single and scored when Hillie doubled. Hillie scored on a ground out by Brass.

Brass made it 3-0 in the third as she doubled and scored on a two-out ground-rule double by Smith.

Kayla Mullinax made it 4- in the fourth as she single and scored on a fielder' choice by Kennedy.

Amechia Hickmon brok up the shutout as she led o the top of the seventh with solo homer to left field.

ECCC had 11 hit wit Stevens and Mullinax bot getting three.

EMCC's only other hit wa a single by Ashlyn Grossie t lead off the game. Ashle Clark took the loss.

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WEEK OF March 26/07

JUCO SOFTBALL

East Central 12-12
Holmes 2-2

The Lady Warriors swept the visiting Lady Bulldogs by identical 12-2 scores Tuesday afternoon in Decatur.

In the first game, Kady Chandler (8-5) went five innings to get the win. She struck out six and gave up two earned runs.

Sondreia Hillie homered and drove in four runs to lead ECCC, while Candace Griffin homered, singled and drove in three. Loren Kennedy and Shenique Brass had two hits each.

In the second game, Kimbo Seale (5-5) got the win with four innings of work. She allowed just one earned run, while Lindsey Little finished up on the hill.

Brass was 3-for-4 with a homer, double and six RBIs to lead EC, which broke a 1-1 tie with five runs in the second and four more in the third. Laura Smith had a single, double and an RBI, Whitnee White had two singles and an RBI and Lindsey Stevens had a double.

ECCC, which is now 13-13, hosts Mississippi Delta Thursday at 3 p.m.

— Rocky Higginbotham

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WEEK OF April 2/07

ECCC Warriors Take 'W'

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR—A 10-8 decision over visiting East Mississippi Community College last week began MACJC Central Division competition for the East Central Community College baseball squad, who followed the victory with 2-0 loss in the nightcap.

The Diamond Warriors jumped out to a 9-1 lead in the opener before East Mississippi rallied for three runs in the sixth inning and four runs in the seventh.

EC was led at the plate by George Washington, who doubled, singled and had one RBI.

Singles each were recorded by Jacob Casey, Terrell Hendrix, Warren Bowling, Jacob Thames, and Chris Parkman of Pulaski.

Collecting RBIs, in addition to Washington, were Thames (4), Chad Gosselin (2); Bowling, Parkman, Brian Jones and Jordan Robinson.

Runs were scored by Washington (4), Hendrix (2), Casey, Bowling, Gosselin and Robinson.

Right-hander Jesus Aleman got the win for EC, allowing four runs on five hits through 5 2/3 innings. He also fanned seven batters.

In the second contest, Jones and Gosselin had two singles each to lead the EC offense. Hendrix and Thames also singled.

The Diamond Warriors dropped a doubleheader to home standing Meridian Community College on Saturday.

East Central fell 6-1 in the opener and 6-4 in the second contest, and saw its record fall to 12-16 overall and 1-3 in division play under first-year head coach Neal Holliman.

Right-hander ***Joe Patterson of Morton*** took for the loss for EC, as he allowed two runs on three hits through four innings of work. He also fanned one batter and walked two.

ECCC travels to Hinds Community College today for a division match-up.

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IMPACT _____

East Central sweeps pair from Holmes

from staff reports

East Central Community College swept a pair of Central Division baseball games from visiting Holmes Tuesday afternoon, winning 11-7 in the first game and 6-2 in the nightcap.

The Warriors are now 15-18 on the season and 4-4 in division play.

In the opener, ECCC scored twice in the first, five times in the second and three times in the third to build a 10-0 lead.

Gregory Stovall (2-4) threw four scoreless innings to get the win, giving up just two hits and striking out four.

Jacob Thames had a single and double, Josh Lafferty had a double and Jordan Robinson and Brian Jones each went 2-for-3 to lead the Warriors.

In the second game, EC scored three times each in the fourth and sixth innings after Holmes got one run each in the third and fifth frames.

Joe Patterson (4-4) went the distance to get the win on the mound, striking out three and allowing two runs on three hits and four walks.

George Washington was 2-for-2, Adam Griffin was 2-for-3 and Jones had a double for EC.

— Rocky Higginbotham

PHOTO BY PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

HE'S SAFE

East Central Community College's Adam Griffin slides in under Holmes Community College's Blake Pennock after he had to leap for the ball during Tuesday action in Decatur.

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WEEK OF April 4/07

JUCO BASEBALL

East Central13-7
Jeff Davis 11-5

The Warriors swept a pair in Decatur Wednesday, beating Jeff Davis 13-11 and 7-5 to climb above the .500 mark for the season.

ECCC, 19-18 overall, is at East Mississippi Saturday at 2 p.m.

Wednesday, the Warriors scored seven times in the bottom of the fifth to snap a 6-6 tie, then held on for the win.

Terrell Hendrix (1-4) gave up three earned runs in five innings to get the win, while George Washington was 3-for-4 with a double to lead the offense.

Josh Lafferty was 2-for-2 for ECCC, while Jacob Casey and Warren Bowling each went 2-for-3.

In Game 2, East Central jumped to a 7-1 lead through five innings and held on. Joe Patterson (5-5) went three innings and got the win.

Hendrix and Brian Jones both had two hits in the second game.

— Rocky Higginbotham

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IMPACT _____

WEEK OF April 9/07

ECCC Wins Pair Over Northeast

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR—East Central Community College's baseball team improved to 17-18 following a doubleheader sweep of Northeast Mississippi Community College Friday at Booneville.

Jordan Robinson of Union led EC sluggers with a double and single in posting a 6-4 victory in the opener, and Terrell Hendrix doubled and added two singles in a 5-2 decision to complete the sweep.

Other hitters in the first contest were Hendrix and Adam Griffin, doubles each; and George Washington, Warren Bowling, Brian Jones, Jacob Thames, Josh Lafferty and Colby Hawthorne, singles each.

Washington also collected three RBIs and Jones knocked in two runs. Hawthorne was also credited with an RBI.

Runs were scored by Hendrix (2), Robinson, Bowling, Griffin and Thames.

EC scored one run in the first inning, one in the second, two in the fifth and two in the sixth.

Northeast tallied one run in the first inning, two in the fifth and one in the seventh.

Jesus Aleman, was the winning pitcher for EC. He allowed three runs on six hits through four and one-third innings. He also fanned two batters and walked a pair.

Additional hitters besides Hendrix in the nightcap were Robinson, two singles; and Washington, Griffin, Jones and Chris Parkman of Pulaski, singles each.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES √

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF April 16/07

Warriors sweep East Mississippi

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

The East Central Community College Warriors extended their win streak to nine by sweeping East Mississippi and Jeff Davis in doubleheaders and whipping Jones in a single game to up their record to 22-18 going into today's Central Division doubleheader with Meridian at 3 p.m. in Decatur

ECCC	**7-9**
East Mississippi	**6-2**

EC broke a 5-5 tie by scoring twice in the seventh in Friday's opener at Scooba.

Brian Jones led EC at the plate with two singles and three

Continued on page B4...
See Warriors...

Warriors...

Contiinued from B3...

RBIs. Jacob Thames had a double, while Chris Parkman had two RBIs.

Jesus Aleman (5-1) got the win. In the second game, George Washington led EC with three singles.

Jones and Warren Bowling both had a single and a double with Bowling getting three RBIs.

Gregory Stovall (3-4) got the win.

ECCC	**20**
Jones	**6**

The Warriors improved to 22-18 with Sunday's rout of Jones at Ellisville.

EC had 18 hits and put up 13 runs over the final two innings.

Jacob Casey of Union led EC with two doubles and two singles. He also had two RBIs and scored two runs. Chad Gosselin and Adam Griffin both homered and singled. Gosselin had three RBIs and scored two runs.

Josh Lafferty had a double and a pair of singles to drive in five runs.

Daniel Carela (3-1) got the win.

APPEARED IN:

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UNION APPEAL ✓

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IMPACT _____

WEEK OF April 16/07

ECCC Diamond Warriors Crush Jones, Sweep EMCC In Recording Ninth Straight Win

East Central Community College's baseball team recorded its ninth consecutive victory Sunday afternoon by trouncing Jones County Junior College 20-6 Sunday afternoon in Ellisville.

With the victory, the Diamond Warriors improved to 22-18 under first-year head coach Neal Holliman.

East Central began weekend action by sweeping East Mississippi Community (7-6, 9-2) in a key MACJC Central Division match-up Friday in Scooba. The Diamond Warriors are 6-4 in league play and remain in contention for a spot in the state playoffs, which get underway May 3.

ECCC takes on division leader Meridian Community College at 3 p.m. Wednesday at the Clark-Gay Baseball Complex on the Decatur campus. EC also hosts division foe Hinds in a 3 p.m. doubleheader this Saturday.

In the win over Jones, EC pounded 18 hits and erupted for 13 runs in the final two innings in posting the easy victory. Jacob Casey of Union led the EC offense with two doubles and two singles. He also collected two RBIs and scored two runs. Chad Gosselin of Brandon and Adam Griffin of Neshoba Central also had a productive day, as each homered and singled. Gosselin was credited with three RBIs and scored two runs, and Griffin knocked in two runs and scored once.

Other hitters were Warren Bowling of Florence and Josh Lafferty of Union, who both registered a double and two singles; Jacob Thames of Magee, two singles; and Terrell Hendrix of Starkville and Colby Hawthorne of McNeil, singles each. Bowling also had three RBIs and scored three runs; Lafferty, five RBIs and two runs; Thames, two RBIs and two runs; Hendrix, one RBI and three runs; and Hawthorne, one RBI and one run. Brian Jones of Adolphus, Ky., also scored a run.

EC scored three runs in the first inning, one in the third, three in the fifth, eight in the eighth and five in the ninth. Jones tallied one run in the fourth inning, two in the seventh and three in the eighth.

Right-hander Daniel Carela of New York, New York got the win for EC, allowing one run on four hits through five innings of work. He fanned three batters and walked one. Also appearing on the mound were Josh Denson of Carthage, Josh Sheehan of Newton County, George Washington of Demopolis and Jones, who each hurled one inning.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES
UNION APPEAL
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓
SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓
OTHER

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT
NEWTON RECORD
MERIDIAN STAR ✓
CLARION-LEDGER
IMPACT

WEEK OF April 23/07

ECCC/MCC DOUBLEHEADER

The Diamond Warriors fell 6-1 and 11-0 to visiting Meridian Community College, snapping a nine-game win streak.

MCC scored two runs in the first inning, one in the third and three in the fifth in posting the victory.

East Central's lone run came in the sixth inning.

The Diamond Warriors managed just two hits off of MCC pitching – singles by Washington and Parkman.

Hendrix was the losing pitcher, allowing four earned runs on five hits through four innings of work. He fanned two batters and walked four. Denson hurled the final three innings and gave up one run on two hits. He struck out two batters.

In the second game – which was called after five innings – MCC tallied six runs in the second inning, three in the third and two in the fourth.

EC collected four hits – a double and single by Jones and two singles from Hendrix.

Aleman was the losing pitcher, allowing five earned runs on four hits through one-and-a-third innings. He fanned one batter and walked one. Patterson pitched one-and-two-thirds innings, allowing three earned runs on three hits. He walked two batters and fanned none. Jones pitched the final two innings and gave up two earned runs on four hits. He fanned two batters and walked one.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF April 23/07

Warriors take two from Hinds

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

After being swept 6-1 and 11-0 by Meridian Community College earlier in the week, the East Central Community College Warriors battled back to win both games of Saturday's doubleheader with Hinds Community College, sweeping the Eagles 8-7 and 8-4.

"They played hard," EC first-year head coach Neal Holliman said of his team. "I was very proud of them. I couldn't have asked for a better effort. I couldn't have asked for anything better than what they gave."

The Warriors are 8-6 in the Central Division and 24-20 overall. Hinds fell to 6-6 and 22-14. Meridian has clinched the No. 1 position in the division at 13-1.

"Hinds has got East Mississippi and Holmes left and you would expect them to win all four of them," Holliman said. "They're very capable of doing that which makes us have to win the last two games at Holmes which is not going to be easy."

ECCC	**8-8**
Hinds	**7-4**

The Warriors had to come from behind in Saturday's opener at Decatur. In Game 1, Hinds led 5-2 through three innings, but the Warriors scored twice in the fourth and twice in the seventh to force extra innings.

After the Eagles went up 7-6 in the top of the ninth, EC tallied twice in the bottom of the inning for the win.

Jesus Aleman (6-2) got the win with 6 2/3 innings of relief. EC had 11 hits with Adam Griffin getting a single and a double. Jacob Casey, Terrell Hendrix, and Jacob Thames each had two singles.

In the second game, Joe Patterson (6-5) got the win with Josh Denson earning a save.

The Warriors got a triple from George Washington, a single and a double each from Casey and Warren Bowling, and two singles from Brian Jones.

Meridian	**6-11**
ECCC	**1-0**

The Eagles clinched a berth in the upcoming MACJC State Tournament with last Wednesday's sweep at Decatur.

MCC improved to 11-1 in the Central Division and 34-10 overall. In having a nine-game win streak snapped, EC fell to 6-6 and 22-20.

In the opener, Lee Swindle (7-1) tossed a one-hitter for six innings to get the win. John Hendrix retired the Warriors in order in the seventh.

MCC took a 2-0 lead in the first inning of the opener as Josh Demoney led off with a homer to left-center field and Jarrod Parks circled the bases for a two-out inside-the-park homer.

Tyler Moore made it 3-0 with a solo homer to lead off the third inning.

EC threatened in the bottom of the third as Jacob Thames walked and Chris Parkman reached on an error to put runners at the corners with one out. Swindle retired the next two batters on ground

Continued on page B4...
See Warriors...

Warriors...

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outs to get out of the inning unscathed.

The Eagles extended their lead to 6-0 with three runs in the fifth. The key hit was a two-run triple by Parks.

The Warriors got their only run of the day in the bottom of the sixth. Terrell Hendrix was hit by a pitch to start the inning. After a sacrifice bunt by Jacob Casey, George Washington broke up Swindle's bid for a no-hitter with a bunt single. Hendrix came home on a sacrifice fly by Adam Griffin.

Parks led MCC with a triple, a homer and three RBIs. Shannon Steed had a single and a double.

Hendrix took the loss.

In the second game, the Eagles took control early, scoring five runs in the top of the second inning. Justin Worby and Matt Holliman both had two-run singles. Parks also plated a run with an infield hit and a bases-loaded walk to Demoney forced in another run.

MCC went up 9-0 in the third with Moore getting an RBI single and Holliman adding a sacrifice fly. Steed scored on a wild pitch.

A two-run homer to right field by Scott Mosley in the fourth ended the day's scoring.

Wade Weathers tossed a four-hitter in the five-inning win. He struck out six with no walks.

EC starter Jesus Aleman (5-2) got the loss.

Mosley had a single and a homer, while Parks, Worby and Steed each had a pair of singles for MCC. Holliman had three RBIs.

Brian Jones had a single and a double and Hendrix had two singles to account for ECCC's four hits.

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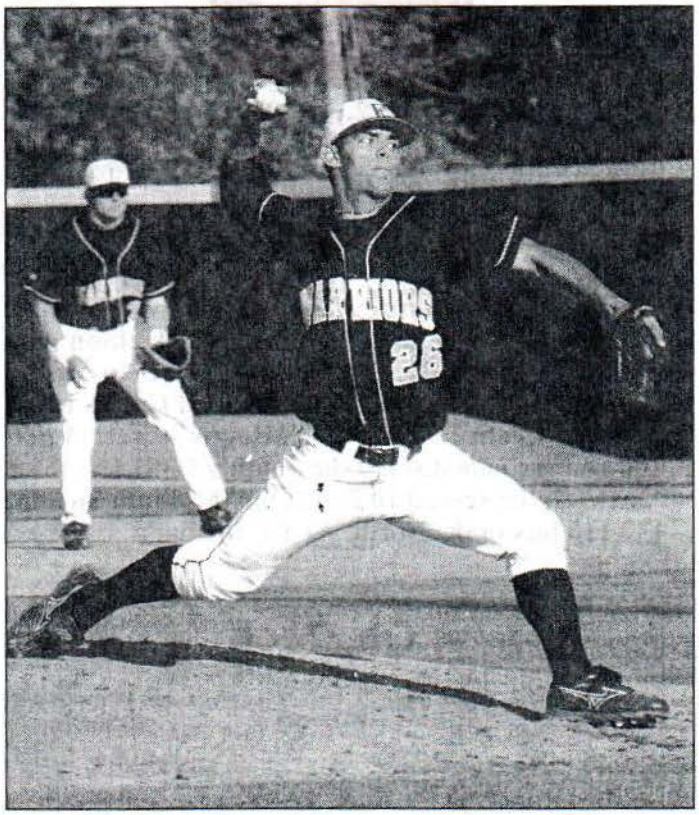
WEEK OF April 23/07



Jesus Aleman tossed East Central to an 8-7 win over Hinds in Game 1 of Saturday's doubleheader at Decatur. EC swept Hinds with an 8-4 win in Game 2.
Photo by Marty Stamper

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WEEK OF April 23/07

JUCO BASEBALL

East Central 6-10

Copiah-Lincoln 4-7

The Warriors swept a pair from visiting Co-Lin in Decatur Tuesday, winning 6-4 in Game 1 and taking the nightcap 10-7.

In the first game, Terrell Hendrix was 3-for-3 with two stolen bases and two runs scored to lead the Warriors — who fell behind 3-0 in the first inning before scoring six unanswered runs.

Brian Jones was 2-for-4 for ECCC; Adam Griffin had one hit and two runs scored; and George Washington and Jacob Casey both had one hit.

Josh Denson was the winning pitcher.

In the second game, the Warriors pounded out 12 base hits as they improved to 26-20 on the season.

Griffin was 2-for-3 with four runs scored, Washington had two hits and two runs, Chad Gosselin was 2-for-2 with a run and Chris Parkman also had two hits.

Hendrix, Colby Hawthorne, Jacob Thames and Warren Bowling had EC's other hits.

The Warriors return to action Saturday with a Central Division doubleheader at Holmes.

— Rocky Higginbotham

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

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Split at Holmes gives EC postseason berth

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

The East Central Community College Warriors knew they would be in this week's MACJC state baseball tournament with a sweep at Holmes Community College Saturday at Goodman.

After dropping the first game 8-7 to the Bulldogs, it looked bleak for the Warriors, but a 7-6 East Mississippi win over Hinds in Game 2 of their doubleheader and EC's 14-9 win over Holmes in their second game sent the Warriors into the postseason after a one-year absence.

"Our guys were very ecstatic and we were very proud of them," said EC coach Neal Holliman. "We were hoping to go to Holmes and sweep both games, but we just didn't play that well in the first game. I think we played a little tight knowing everything that was on the line.

"We regrouped after that and were fortunate enough to get in. We were able to beat Hinds three out of four times and that's what it came down to. Our guys earned it against them."

The Warriors, 27-21, open the state tournament on Thursday at 7 p.m. against the host Bulldogs of Gulf Coast, 36-9, who are ranked second nationally.

"Anytime you play Cooper Farris' team they're going to be well-prepared," Holliman said. "You're going to play a very good team and a very good program at their place, so we'll have to be prepared. We went down there earlier in the year and split with them.

"They're undefeated in the South Division and have earned the right to be where they are."

Also in the six-team field are Northwest (33-13), Pearl River (24-22), Meridian (37-11), and Itawamba (34-13). MCC is ranked eighth nationally.

ECCC	**6-10**
Copiah-Lincoln	**4-7**

The Warriors tuned up for the regular season ending showdown at Holmes with the sweep of the Wolves at Decatur on April 24.

In the opener, Terrell Hendrix went 3-for-3, swiped

Continued on 5B...
See Warriors...

ECCC's Jacob Casey of Union applies a tag to a baserunner in a recent game with Meridian Community College. ***Photo by Marty Stamper***

Continued from B3...

a pair of bases, and scored two runs to lead the Warriors — who fell behind 3-0 in the first inning before scoring six unanswered runs.

Brian Jones went 2-for-4. Adam Griffin had one hit and scored two runs. George Washington and Jacob Casey both had one hit.

Josh Denson got the win in relief.

In the second game, the Warriors spotted the Wolves a 3-0 lead in the top of the first inning on a three-run homer before bouncing back to grab the victory

EC finished with a dozen hits with Griffin getting two hits and scoring four runs. Washington had two hits and scored twice. Chad Gosselin and Chris Parkman both had two hits.

Daniel Carela got the win.

The Warriors improved to 26-20 with the sweep.

After losing the opener, the Warriors responded to sew up a playoff berth.

Warren Bowling homered and singled to lead EC in the first game. He also had three RBIs.

Adam Griffin had a double. Terrell Hendrix, Jacob Casey, Brian Jones, Chad Gosselin, and Jacob Thames each had a single.

Jones took the loss.

In the second game, Josh Lafferty led EC's 14-hit attack with a homer, a double, and a single.

Hendrix had two singles and a triple. Griffin had a single and a double. Casey had a pair of singles with Jones and George Washington both getting a double.

The Warriors put up five runs in the second frame and five more in the third.

Joe Patterson got the win, allowing five earned runs on six hits through five innings.

WEEK OF 4-30-07

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Warriors clinch spot in state tournament

East Central Community College's baseball team qualified for the MACJC State Tournament following a doubleheader split with Holmes Community College Saturday afternoon on the Goodman campus.

The Diamond Warriors, who improved to 26-21 overall and finished second in the MACJC Central Division with a 9-7 mark under first-year head coach Neal Holliman, begin first-round action of the double-elimination tournament by taking on host Gulf Coast at 7 p.m. Thursday. Competition continues through Sunday when the championship game will be played at 1 p.m.

Holliman said he is "very ecstatic....and very proud" of the Diamond Warriors for reaching the playoffs, and looks forward to competing this week at Gulf Coast.

In the match-ups with Holmes, East Central fell 8-7 in the first contest but rallied for 14-9 decision in the nightcap. The Diamond Warriors clinched a playoff spot when Hinds also split its doubleheader with East Mississippi Saturday afternoon.

Warren Bowling of Florence homered and singled to lead EC hitters in the first game. He also collected three RBIs and scored two runs.

Other hitters were Adam Griffin of Neshoba Central, double; and Terrell Hendrix of Starkville, Jacob Casey of Union, Brian Jones of Adolphus, Ky., Chad Gosselin of Flowood and Jacob Thames of Mendenhall, singles each.

EC scored two runs in the first inning, two in the fourth, one in the fifth and two in the sixth.

Jones took the loss for EC on the mound.

In the second game, Josh Lafferty of Quitman led EC's 14-hit attack by blasting a home run, double and single.

Other hitters were Hendrix, triple and two singles; Griffin, double and single; Casey, two singles; and Jones and George Washington of Demopolis, doubles each.

EC scored five runs in the second inning, five runs in the third, two in the fourth and two in the fifth.

Joe Patterson of Morton picked up the win for EC, allowing five earned runs on six hits through five innings.

ECCC-Co-Lin

The Diamond Warriors swept visiting Copiah-Lincoln Community College in the home finale April 24 at the Clark-Gay Baseball Complex.

In the non-divisional match-ups, East Central rallied for a 6-4 decision in the first contest and came from behind in the nightcap to post a 10-7 victory.

The Diamond Warriors were down 3-0 after the first inning in game one but responded with a single run in the third, four runs in the fourth and one in the fifth in claiming the win. Co-Lin scored its other run in the fifth.

Terrell Hendrix, a product of East Oktibbeha High School in Starkville, led the EC offense with three singles. Adam Griffin of Neshoba Central also had a productive outing with a home run and three RBIs. Other hitters were Brian Jones of Adolphus, Ky., two singles; and Jacob Casey of Union and George Washington of Demopolis, singles each. Washington was also credited with two RBIs and Jacob Thames of Magee knocked in a run.

Runs were scored by Hendrix (2), Casey (2), Washington and Warren Bowling of Florence.

Southpaw Gregory Stovall of Neshoba Central was the winning pitcher. He allowed no earned runs on four hits through four and a third innings. He walked three batters. Right-hander Josh Denson of Carthage pitched the final two and two-thirds innings, allowing no runs on one hit. He fanned two batters and walked one.

In the second game, EC was again facing a three-run deficit in the first inning, but rallied for five runs in the bottom of the frame and added two runs in the third, one in the fifth, and two in the sixth. Co-Lin added two runs in the fourth and tallied twice in the seventh.

Washington, Griffin, Chad Gosselin of Flowood and Chris Parkman of Pulaski had two hits each to lead the Warrior offense. All the hits were singles except for a double registered by Gosselin. Other hitters were Bowling, home run; Thames, triple; and Hendrix and Colby Hawthorn of McNeil, singles each.

Collecting RBIs were Gosselin (3), Parkman (2), Washington, Bowling, Griffin, Thames and Hawthorne.

Right-hander Daniel Carela of New York picked up the win for EC on the mound, allowing five runs on five hits through five innings of work. Denson and Josh Sheenan of Newton County pitched an inning each in relief.

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WEEK OF 4-30-07

ECCC baseball, softball teams advance to MACJC state tourneys

The 2007 campaign continues for East Central Community College baseball and softball teams as both squads have qualified for the upcoming MACJC State Tournaments.

The Diamond Warriors, Central Division runners-up, completed regular season action with a 27-21 overall record and were 9-7 in division play under first-year head coach Neal Holliman.

East Central begins state tournament action by taking on host Mississippi Gulf Coast at 7 p.m. Thursday on the Perkinston campus. Gulf Coast won the MACJC South Division title.

Rounding out the six-team bracket are North Division winner Northwest Mississippi Community College and runner-up Itawamba Community College; Central Division winner Meridian Community College; and South Division runner-up Pearl River Community College.

The double-elimination tournament continues through Sunday, May 6, when the championship game gets underway at 1 p.m. in Perkinston.

The Lady Diamond Warriors, who are 28-18 overall, captured their third-straight MACJC Central Division title with a 12-4 mark under fourth-year head coach Scott Hill.

East Central begins competition by challenging the Pearl River/Northeast winner at 2 p.m. Friday. Northwest Mississippi Community College, MACJC North Division champion, is serving as host for this year's event.

Northeast Mississippi Community College is the North Division runner-up and Pearl River Community College placed second in the South.

Also qualifying for the state tournament are Hinds Community College, Central Division runners-up; and Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, South Division winner.

The three-day tournament concludes on Sunday, May 6, with the championship contest set to begin at 2 p.m. in Senatobia.

Both squads can also qualify for their respective Region 23 Tournament - scheduled the following week- by winning at least one game in state competition.

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IMPACT

April 30, 97

East Central pulls huge upset in state tourney, Friday's action postponed due to wet grounds

from staff reports

In a game that lasted almost to midnight, East Central Community College upset nationally ranked Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College 3-2 Thursday night in first-round action of the MACJC State Baseball Tournament being held on Gulf Coast's Perkinston campus.

Gulf Coast was the No. 2 ranked junior college baseball program in the country before East Central's stunning win in the first round.

The Diamond Warriors improved to 28-21 following the victory, while the Bulldogs dropped to 36-10.

East Central was to face another nationally ranked team- Meridian Community College – at 7 p.m. tonight.

However, Mother Nature decided that the games would not be played.

The entire day of MACJC State Tournament play was postponed after it was determined the playing field was too wet to play.

The two teams will instead meet at 4 p.m. today on Gulf Coast's campus in Perkinston.

The Meridian Community College Eagles – who are ranked eighth in the national JUCO poll- defeated Itawamba Community College 13-8 in their first-round contest in the double-elimination tournament.

With that win, the Eagles clinched hosting duties for the Region XXIII Tournament which will begin May 14.

The top six teams in the MACJC State Tournament will make the Region XXIII Tournament along with LSU-Eunice, which is the No. 1 ranked junior college team in the country.

The four-day tournament concludes Sunday with the championship match-up set for 1 p.m.

APPEARED IN:
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UNION APPEAL
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL
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IMPACT

WEEK OF April 30/07

East Central wins second straight game in MACJC State Tournament

from staff reports

The East Central Community College Warriors were stifled by Meridian's X Swindle for the first seven innings. So when they got their chance against the MCC bullpen, they took advantage.

The Warriors scored nine runs in the eighth inning off of the Eagle bullpen to take a 9-3 win in the second round of the MACJC State Tournament in a game that was delayed one day due to rain.

Trailing 3-0 heading into the eighth, the Warriors got a leadoff home run from George Washington off MCC reliever Chase Porch.

The floodgates then opened, as ECCC scored eight more times on five hits, led by Adam Griffin's two-run double.

Josh Denson picked up the win for the Warriors in relief. Denson pitched the seventh inning, allowing a two-run homer to Nathan Wright, but picked up the win thanks to the East Central offensive show in the eighth.

Porch gave up four runs without getting an out in the eighth inning and took the loss.

The Warriors, now 29-21 on the season, will take on the winner of the Meridian, Northwest Mississippi game, which took place late Saturday night, at 4 p.m. today on the Gulf Coast campus in Perkinston.

— Jeff Edwards

APPEARED IN:

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

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East Central baseball squad wins state title

Warriors knock off nationally-ranked MCC, Gulf Coast to take crown

from school reports

East Central Community College captured the MACJC State Baseball Tournament by defeating host Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College 5-3 early Monday morning on the Perkinston campus.

The nine-inning matchup was delayed about 30 minutes due to rain in the top of the sixth with EC owning a 3-0 lead, and concluded about 12:20 a.m. with the possible winning run at the plate for Gulf Coast.

Joe Patterson of Morton — who

See **ECCC**
Page C3

ECCC PHOTO

STATE CHAMPS

The East Central Community College Diamond Warriors are shown celebrating their MACJC State Championship after defeating Gulf Coast 5-3 early Monday on the Perkinston campus. ECCC was the only team to go undefeated in the four-day tournament and twice defeated nationally ranked Gulf Coast and Meridian Community College to win the state title.

From Page C1

shared pitching duties with Daniel Carela of New York — got Jeremy Davis to pop up to right fielder George Washington of Demopolis, Ala. to end the threat.

The Diamond Warriors were the only team to go undefeated in the four-day tournament and twice defeated nationally-ranked Gulf Coast and Meridian Community College to win the state title.

Gulf Coast entered the tournament ranked second and MCC was rated eighth in the NJCAA poll.

East Central rallied to defeat MCC 11-10 earlier Sunday by scoring eight runs in the top of the ninth inning and holding for the one-run victory.

The Diamond Warriors began tournament action by clipping Gulf Coast 3-2 Thursday night and rallied to beat MCC 9-3 Saturday, scoring all nine runs in the eighth inning after MCC had led 3-0.

East Central, which improved to 31-21, is led by first-year head coach Neal Holliman, who was a first-year assistant to the late Jamie Clark when the Diamond Warriors won the state title in 1998.

East Central advances to the Region 23 Tournament scheduled next week at Skaggs Field on the Meridian Community College campus in Meridian.

WEEK OF May 7/01

IMPACT

APPEARED IN:

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES

UNION APPEAL

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

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Varriors Win MACJC State Tourney

nd Hendrix scored later in the inning hen Adam Griffin of Neshoba Central singled. Hendrix had singled, nole second and moved to third on a acrifice fly to right field by George Washington of Demopolis.

Carela was credited with the win, allowing two runs on two hits through five innings. He fanned two batters and walked one. Patterson pitched the final four innings, allowing one run on three hits. He fanned three batters.

ECCC RALLIES AGAIN TO ELIMINATE MCC, 11-10

Just when it appeared that eighth-ranked MCC had rebounded from its 9-3 loss to East Central Saturday - when the Diamond Warriors erupted for nine runs in the top of the eighth for the 9-3 victory – the rally birds struck again as EC scored eight runs in the top of the ninth and held on for an 11-10 decision, eliminating MCC from tournament competition.

Hendrix began the scoring onslaught with a solo home run and later singled in the wild inning and knocked in two runs. Brian Jones of Adolphus, Ky., and Josh Lafferty of Quitman had RBI singles each, and Jacob Casey of Union connected on a single which also scored two runs. Several Warriors also reached base via the walk, including Casey, Colby Hawthorne of McNeil, Griffin, Thames and Washington. In addition to Hendrix, other Warriors who scored runs were Casey, Hawthorne, Griffin, Thames, Jones and Lafferty.

Warren Bowling of Florence gave EC a 1-0 lead with his RBI single in the first inning. Meridian responded with three runs in the bottom of the first, thanks to Michael Guerrero's two-run homer and a solo shot by Tyler Moore.

Meridian stretched its lead to 5-1 after three innings and added two runs in the seventh and three in the eighth to take a 10-3 advantage going into the ninth inning.

East Central scored its other runs on Thames' RBI single in the sixth and Bowling's second RBI single of the game in the seventh inning.

Washington got the win for EC on the mound, allowing five runs on three hits through two innings. He fanned one batter. Hendrix was credited with the save, as he hurled a scoreless final inning and allowed one hit. He fanned one batter. Denson pitched four-and-a third innings, allowing one run on four hits. He fanned four batters and walked one. He relieved starter Patterson, who allowed four runs on six hits through one and two-thirds innings. He walked one batter.

REGION 23 TOURNAMENT

The state champion Diamond Warriors have now set their sights on the Region 23 Tournament scheduled May 14-17 at Meridian Community College.

East Central, the top seed from Mississippi, begins first-round action of the double-elimination tournament by taking on sixth-seeded Northwest Mississippi Community College Monday.

The six-team field also includes LSU-Eunice, the top seed from Louisiana, and Mississippi teams Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College (no. 2), Meridian Community College (no. 3) and Itawamba Community College (no. 5)

The East Central Community College Diamond Warriors are shown celebrating their MACJC State Championship after defeating Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College 5-3 late Sunday night (May 6) on the Perkinston campus. ECCC was the only team to go undefeated in the four-day tournament and two defeated nationally ranked Gulf Coast and Meridian Community College to win the state title. East Central, which improved to 31-21, is led by first-year head coach Neal Hoffman, who was a first-year assistant to the late Jamie Clark when the Diamond Warriors won the state title in 1998. The Diamond Warriors also qualified for the Region 23 Tournament scheduled Monday, May 14 through Thursday, May 17 at Meridian Community College. (EC Photo)

ECCC Diamond

ECCC-Chris Parkman of Pulaski picked the perfect time to hit his first home run as a member of the East Central Community College baseball team.

The 5-11, 200-pound catcher and University of West Alabama transfer sent a towering solo shot over the left field fence to give the Diamond Warriors a 4-3 lead in the top of the ninth inning. EC added an insurance run later in the inning and held on for a 5-3 decision over number- two ranked Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College for the MACJC State Baseball Championship held on the Perkinston campus.

The nine-inning match-up was delayed about 30 minutes due to rain in the top of the sixth with EC owning a 3-0 lead, and concluded about 12:20 a.m. with the possible winning run at the plate for Gulf Coast. Joe Patterson of Morton – who shared pitching duties with Daniel Carela of New York – got Jeremy Davis to pop up to right-fielder George Washington of Demopolis to end the threat.

East Central improved to 31-21 following the victory and Gulf Coast dropped to 38-11. East Central is led by first-year head coach Neal Holliman, who was a first-year assistant to the late Jamie Clark when the Diamond Warriors won the state title in 1998.

Following the win, Coach Holliman gave all the credit "to God and a great bunch of kids."

"There's no doubt that God has blessed this team in so many ways, and that His hand was on our team and coaching staff," said Holliman. "Our guys never give up, as evidenced by the big comebacks against Meridian and the close wins with Gulf Coast. We told our guys in the beginning that if they do things our way –which may not necessarily be the best way for some teams but it will be the best way for this team if they all totally believe in it together - that they will succeed, and they did, exactly that."

Pitching staff member Jesus Aleman of Bell Glade, Fla., and a Cuba native, probably gave an even better description of the 2007 state baseball champions:

"This team has the biggest heart of any team I ever been associated with....and they never give up, no matter the circumstances, no matter how big a deficit to overcome."

East Central was the only team to go undefeated in the double-elimination event and twice defeated Gulf Coast and eighth-ranked Meridian Community College to capture the championship. The Diamond Warriors rallied to defeat MCC 11-10 earlier Sunday by scoring eight runs in the top of the ninth and holding on for the one-run victory. East Central began tournament action by clipping Gulf Coast 3-2 Thursday night and rallied to beat MCC 9-3 Saturday, scoring all nine runs in the eighth inning after MCC had led 3-0. The match-up with Gulf Coast for the state title was mostly a pitcher's duel until the top of the fifth when Parkman tripled, bringing home speedster Josh Lafferty of Quitman for a 1-0 lead. Colby Hawthorn of McNeil was sent in as a pitch-runner for Parkman and later scored on an infield hit by Terrell Hendrix, a product of East Oktibbeha County HS in Starkville.

Holliman stated that if an MVP for the tournament was selected, he believed that Hendrix would be chosen unanimously.

"Terrell is an unbelievable story and has been one of the most coachable players I have had the opportunity to coach. He will only continue to improve as well as this team because of character and work ethic.

Neshoba Central product Adam Griffin gave EC a 3-0 lead in the sixth when he scored following an infield error off a hard shot by Jacob Thames of Mendenhall and a former Magee High School standout. Gulf Coast scored two runs in the bottom of the sixth on a double by Blaine Ivy with the bases loaded. The Bulldogs tied the contest at 3-3 on an infield error in the bottom of the eighth.

Parkman gave EC the lead for good with his ninth-inning homer

WEEK OF 5-7-07

to surprise big boys at regional

they will be as long as (Coach) Jeff Willis is there."

Holliman, who was an assistant on the '98 ECCC team, describes his club as one with a lineup that "won't scare anybody to death" and with a pitching staff that doesn't have a true ace.

The Warriors, he said, waded through the state tourney field with no great expectations.

"It's an old cliche, but we just took it a game at a time. We said we'd play the first one, then see what happened from there," he said. "We were fortunate enough to beat Gulf Coast and we just went on step by step from there."

The team catalyst is leadoff batter and center fielder Terrell Hendrix, a freshman out of East Oktibbeha. "He's a unique individual, as coachable as any kid I've ever been associated with," Holliman said.

First baseman Adam Griffin and catcher Chris Parkman also played well in the state tourney. Holliman used four different starters in the four tourney games but used sidearming right-hander Joel Denson — "our workhorse" — in three of the four.

"There's no doubt the guys believe in themselves now," Holliman said. "They believe in what we're doing. We'll show up (for the regional) and we'll compete."

Hope floats

Delta State is anxiously awaiting today's announcement by the NCAA of the at-large bids to the Division II regionals.

DSU (44-14) moved up to No. 2 from third in the South Central Region rankings last week, a positive sign but no guarantee — as the Statesmen painfully learned last year — that a postseason bid is forthcoming.

Three automatic bids in the South Central have been clinched; three at-large bids are up for grabs.

DSU went 2-2 in the Gulf South Conference Tournament, won by West Florida. The Statesmen beat the region's No. 1 team, Ouachita Baptist, in the tournament.

The Statesmen did not make the NCAAs last year for the first time since 1998. ...

Millsaps (35-11) is also hoping for good news today when the D-III field is announced. The Majors were one win away from a College World Series trip last year.

M-Bits

There's been no official word on whether catcher Jarrod Saltalamacchia will return to the Mississippi Braves when Brayan Pena comes off the DL in Atlanta.

Pena is eligible to be activated on Thursday, when the Double-A M-Braves are scheduled to start a homestand against Tennessee.

The M-Braves went 5-5 in their first 10 games without Salty, their switch-hitting cleanup batter who was off to a hot start. They were 18-7 before he was summoned to the big leagues.

"You can't help but miss his presence," said M-Braves right fielder Matt Esquivel, who moved into the 4-hole. "It's nothing new for me there. It's an opportunity to fill a role. If that's a load to carry, I accept the responsibility.

"We still have a pretty solid lineup."

Clint Sammons has filled in admirably behind the plate, and the emergence of first baseman Greg Creek as a consistent No. 5 hitter has helped the M-Braves offset the loss of Saltalamacchia's bat.

"Creek's been huge," Esquivel said. "He's done some damage."

But make no mistake, with a first-half championship in their sights, they still want Salty back.

Around the State

East Central looking

By Mike Christensen
mchristensen@clarionledger.com

The field for the junior college state tournament included two teams ranked in the top 10 in the nation plus a couple of others on extended hot streaks.

Lying in the weeds was East Central Community College, the second-place team from the Central Division with a 27-21 record coming into the six-team tournament.

The unsung Warriors rose to the occasion, beating No. 2-ranked Gulf Coast and No. 8 Meridian twice each in Perkinston to emerge with their first state championship since 1998 and the top seed for the NJCAA Region 23 Tournament that starts Monday at Meridian.

The Warriors play Northwest on Monday at 4 p.m. The day's first game matches Gulf Coast and Itawamba at 1, and the nightcap features Meridian and LSU-Eunice, the No. 1 team in the country.

"It only gets tougher now," said first-year ECCC coach Neal Holliman. "Gulf Coast and Meridian are as talented as anybody. LSU-Eunice is very good;

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WEEK OF 5-7-07

ECCC Sophomores honored

These sophomore members of the East Central Community College Diamond Warrior baseball team were honored during a ceremony held prior to the EC vs. Hinds game Saturday, April 21, 2007. Pictured are (from left) assistant coach Michael Avalon, Warren Bowling of Florence and his mother, Peggy Bowling; Josh Denson of Lena and his parents, Scotty and Katherine Denson; Chad Gosselin of Flowood, his parents, Steven and Rena Gosselin, and his sister Lexie Gosselin; Colby Hawthorne of McNeill, his mother Cathy Hawthorne and family friend Donna Russell; manager Ben McCurdy of Morton and his parents, Wilbur and Betty McCurdy; Joe Patterson of Morton and his parents, Tim and Betsey Patterson; Jordan Robinson of Union and his parents, David and Sonya Robinson; Jacob Thames of Mendenhall and his dad, Roger Thames; George Washington of Demopolis, Ala., and his wife, Keara Washington; assistant coach Roberto Martinez and head coach Neal Holliman. The Diamond Warriors completed regular season action with a 27-21 overall record. They finished second in the MACJC Central Division at 9-7 and qualified for the MACJC State Tournament, which will be held Thursday, May 3 through Sunday, May 6 at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College in Perkinston. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

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WEEK OF 5-7-07

Parkman lifts EC to state title

Chris Parkman of Raleigh picked the perfect time to hit his first home run as a member of the East Central Community College baseball team.

Parkman sent a towering solo shot over the left field fence to give the Diamond Warriors a 4-3 lead in the top of the ninth inning. EC added an insurance run later in the inning and held on for a 5-3 decision over number- two ranked Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College for the MACJC State Baseball Championship.

The nine-inning match-up was delayed about 30 minutes due to rain in the top of the sixth with EC owning a 3-0 lead, and concluded about 12:20 a.m. with the possible winning run at the plate for Gulf Coast.

Joe Patterson of Morton, who shared pitching duties with Daniel Carela of New York, got Jeremy Davis to pop up to right-fielder George Washington of Demopolis to end the threat.

East Central improved to 31-21 following the victory and Gulf Coast dropped to 38-11.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF May 7/07

Patterson Helps ECCC Warriors Win State Title

SPECIAL TO THETIMES

DECATUR—East Central Community College captured the MACJC State Baseball Tournament by defeating Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College 5-3 early Monday morning at Perkinston.

The nine-inning match-up was delayed about 30 minutes due to rain in the top of the sixth with EC owning a 3-0 lead, and concluded about 12:20 a.m. with the possible winning run at the plate for Gulf Coast.

Patterson

Joe Patterson of Morton, who shared pitching duties with Daniel Carela, got Jeremy Davis to pop up to right fielder George Washington to end the threat.

The Diamond Warriors were the only team to go undefeated in the four-day tournament and twice defeated nationally ranked Gulf Coast and Meridian Community College to win the state title.

Gulf Coast entered the tournament ranked second and MCC was rated eighth in the NJCAA poll.

East Central rallied to defeat MCC 11-10 earlier Sunday by scoring eight runs in the top of the ninth inning and holding for the one-run victory.

The Diamond Warriors began tournament action by clipping Gulf Coast 3-2 Thursday and rallied to beat MCC 9-3 Sunday, scoring all nine runs in the eighth inning after MCC had led 3-0.

East Central, which improved to 31-21, is led by first-year head coach Neal Holliman, who was a first-year assistant to the late Jamie Clark when the Diamond Warriors won the state title in 1998.

East Central advances to the Region 23 Tournament scheduled next week on the MCC campus.

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EC falls 10-2 in Region 23 opener

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

The East Central Community College Warriors got off to a rough start in the NJCAA Region 23 baseball tournament Monday as they fell 10-2 to Northwest Mississippi in opening-round action.

The Rangers scored 10 runs on only seven hits in run ruling top-seeded ECCC 10-2 in seven innings at Meridian Community College's Scaggs Field.

ECCC, 31-22, dropped into the losers' bracket where it was scheduled to take on Gulf Coast, 38-12, Tuesday in an elimination contest.

The inability to throw strikes kept the Warriors from giving Northwest much competition. Three ECCC hurlers combined to issue seven free passes and all seven wound up crossing the plate.

"I didn't coach very good and we lost the game," was ECCC head coach Neal Holliman's appraisal of the situation. "That's about it."

Northwest took a 1-0 lead in the top of the first inning as Michael Ross led off with a bunt single, stole second, and scored on a ground out by Chad Cregar.

The Warriors drew even in the bottom of the second as Adam Griffin led off with a single, stole second, and scored on a single by Brian Jones. Jones then stole second and third, but was thrown out at the plate by Northwest left fielder Kory Petri when the throw on Jones' steal of third went into the outfield.

Northwest took the lead for good on a three-run homer by Cregar in the top of the third. ECCC starter Joe Patterson issued back-to-back walks to Charlie Edwards and Taylor Walker prior to Cregar's blast to right field. It was Cregar's eighth homer of the year.

The Warriors got one run back in the bottom of the third as Terrell Hendrix beat out an infield single, then took second when Walker's throw from shortstop went into the Ranger dugout. Hendrix stole third and scored on a sacrifice bunt by Colby Hawthorne to cut the Ranger lead to 4-2.

The Rangers put the game away with six runs off just two hits in the top of the sixth. Patterson retired the first two batters before giving way to Josh Denson. After Sean Johnson beat out an infield hit, Denson proceeded to walk the next four batters to put Northwest up 6-0.

Jesus Aleman issued the fifth straight walk and was called for a balk on the next batter to up Northwest's lead to 8-2. A two-run single by Rick Russell extended the Rangers' lead to 10-2.

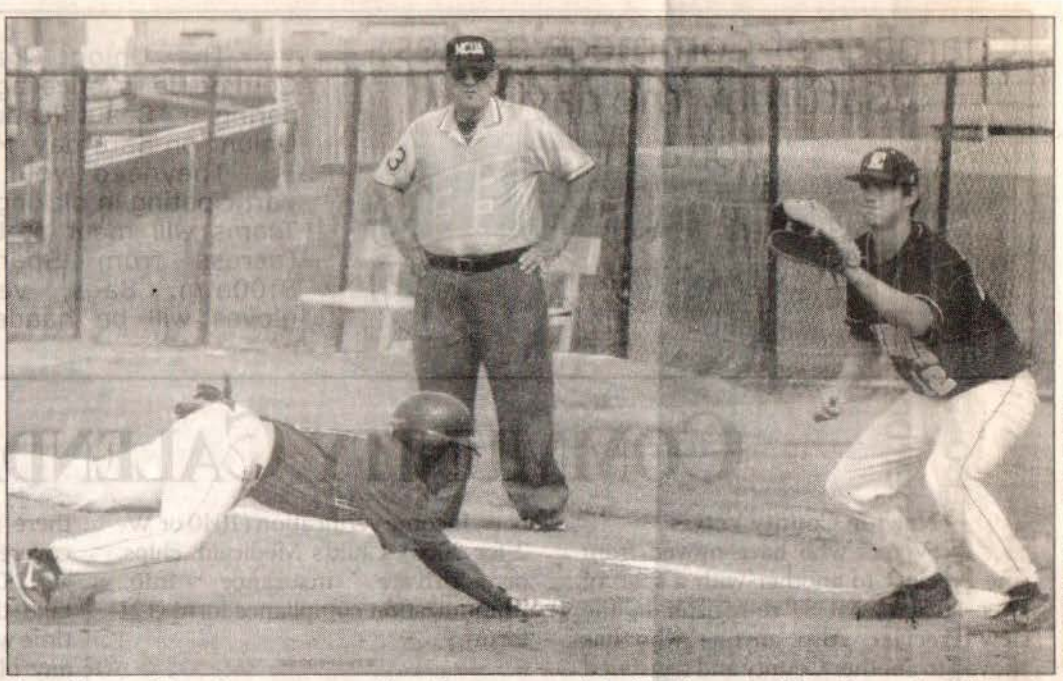
Hendrix had a single and stretched a single into a double in the fifth to lead the Warrior offense. Griffin, Jones, George Washington, and Chad Gosselin each had one single.

Hendrix also had the game's defensive gem when he robbed Cregar of a hit with a sliding catch in right-center in the fifth.

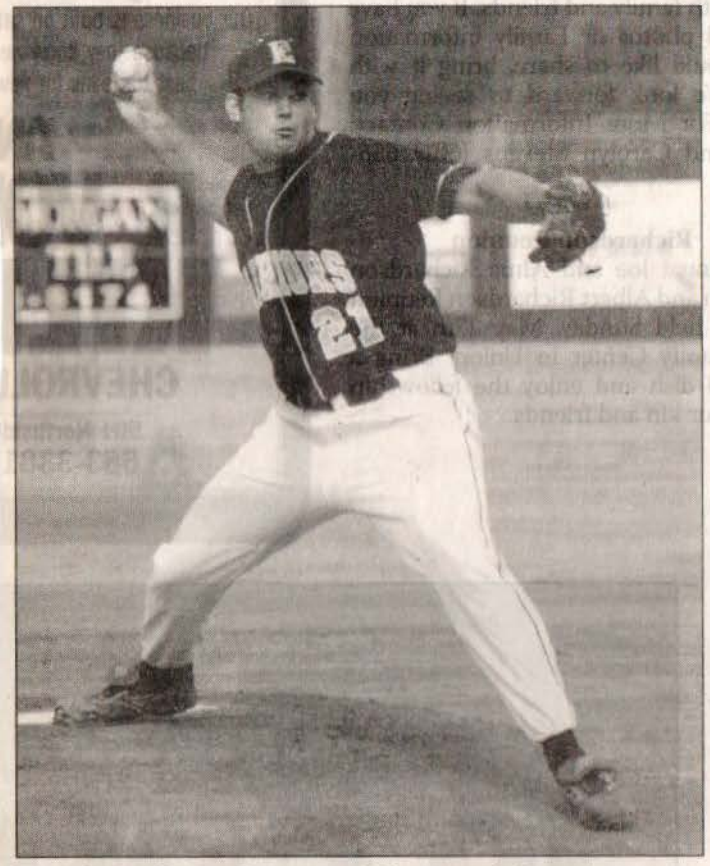
Chase Ware (7-1) went the distance, tossing a six-hitter with four walks and four strikeouts, to get the win for Northwest.

Patterson took the loss for EC. He allowed four runs on five hits. He struck out four and walked two.

Russell and Johnson both had two singles for the Rangers, who entered the tournament with a sizzling .364 team batting average.



East Central first baseman awaits a throw on a pickoff attempt of Northwest's Michael Ross in Monday's Region 23 contest. ***Photo by Marty Stamper***



East Central's Joe Patterson delivers a pitch against Northwest Mississippi. ***Photo by Marty Stamper***

WEEK OF 5-11-07

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WEEK OF 5-21-07

EC's Baseball Season Ends

Patterson Of Morton Takes Mound For Warriors

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR—After falling twice to East Central Community College in the MACJC State Baseball Tournament, nationally ranked Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College took advantage of a six-run third inning to post a 14-6 victory over the Diamond Warriors Tuesday afternoon, eliminating the state champs from further competition in the Region 23 Tournament held at Meridian Community College.

East Central was sent to the elimination round after falling 10-2 to Northwest Mississippi Community College in first-round tournament action on Monday, May 14.

The Diamond Warriors completed season action with a 31-23 mark under first-year head coach Neal Holliman, who received MACJC Baseball Coach of the Year in recognition of his team's success.

Holliman, who was a first-year assistant at ECCC when the Diamond Warriors won the 1998 title under the late Jamie Clark, gave most of the praise for this year's team to his assistants- Michael Avalon and Roberto Martinez – and a dedicated group of Diamond Warriors.

"There is no doubt that East Central would not have won the 2007 Conference Championship without the help and dedication of our players, managers and assistant coaches.

"Coach Avalon and Coach Martinez have been a tremendous blessing to me and to the baseball program at East Central and I feel very fortunate to have each of them on our staff.

"Although we got off to a slow start, our players did a great job of continuing to work hard throughout the season. In the beginning, we asked our guys to lay a foundation for this program and to walk on their own foundation. I believe this team truly did just that and I am so proud of what they accomplished.

"They are a great bunch of guys to be associated with and we are going to miss our eight sophomores, as they have made a tremendous impact on our program."

East Central jumped out to 1-0 first-inning against Gulf Coast when Terrell Hendrix scored from third on a wild pitch. Hendrix had walked and advanced to second on a single by Jacob Casey, and later moved to third on a sacrifice by George Washington.

Gulf Coast later took a 2-1 lead in the contest.

EC tied the contest at 2-2 on Casey's solo home run in the third, but the Bulldogs exploded for six runs in their half of the inning on a grand slam.

The Diamond Warriors scored a pair of runs in the fifth inning, thanks to an RBI triple by Washington which scored Hendrix and an RBI single by Adam Griffin, which scored Washington.

EC's final runs came in the seventh inning, when Griffin's double brought home Washington from first, and a single by Brian Jones scored Jones.

Gulf Coast tallied three runs in the seventh and the game was called due to the eight-run rule.

In the loss to Northwest, EC managed just six hits- a double and single by Hendrix, and singles by Washington, Griffin, Jones and Chad Gosselin.

Griffin scored on Jones' RBI single in the second inning and EC's other run came when Hendrix crossed the plate on a sacrifice by Colby Hawthorne of McNeil.

Northwest scored one run in the first, three in the third and added six runs in the sixth to put the game out of reach.

Joe Patterson of Morton took the loss for EC, allowing four earned runs on five hits. He fanned four batters and walked two.

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IMPACT

East Central no match for Northwest Miss.

By Marty Stamper
special to The Star

The East Central Community College Warriors lived on the edge winning the MACJC State Tournament, May 3-6, at Perkinston.

When it came time to dig in during Monday's NJCAA Region 23 tournament opener with Northwest Mississippi Community College, the Warriors had nothing left to hold with.

The Rangers scored 10 runs on only seven hits in run ruling top-seeded ECCC 10-2 in seven innings at Meridian Community College's Caggs Field.

ECCC, 31-22, drops into the losers' bracket where it will take on Gulf Coast, 38-12, today at 1 p.m. in an elimination contest.

Northwest, 35-15, advances to tonight's 7 p.m. game with the Meridian-LSU-Eunice winner.

ECCC had 3-2 and 5-3 wins over Gulf Coast in the state tournament, along with an 11-10 victory over Meridian. In the only final score that wasn't close, the Warriors tallied nine runs in the eighth inning of a 9-3 victory over MCC.

The inability to throw strikes kept the Warriors from giving Northwest much competition on Monday. Three ECCC hurlers combined to issue seven free passes and all seven wound up crossing the plate.

"I didn't coach very good and we lost the game," was ECCC head coach Neal Holliman's appraisal of the situation. "That's about it."

Northwest took a 1-0 lead in the top of the first inning as Michael

See **ECCC**
Page B3

PHOTO BY PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN S

HEADY STUFF

Northwest Community College's Sean Johnson is safe at third base as the ball bounces off his helmet against ECCC's Jacob Thames.

ECCC

From Page B1

Ross led off with a bunt single, stole second, and scored on a ground out by Chad Cregar.

The Warriors drew even in the bottom of the second as Adam Griffin led off with a single, stole second, and scored on a single by Brian Jones.

Jones then stole second and third, but was thrown out at the plate by Northwest left fielder Kory Petri when the throw on Jones' steal of third went into the outfield.

Northwest took the lead for good on a three-run homer by Cregar in the top of the third. ECCC starter Joe Patterson issued back-to-back walks to Charlie Edwards and Taylor Walker prior to Cregar's blast to right field.

It was Cregar's eighth homer of the year.

The Warriors got one run back in the bottom of the third as Terrell Hendrix beat out an infield single, then took second when Walker's throw from shortstop went into the Ranger dugout.

Hendrix stole third and scored on a sacrifice bunt by Colby Hawthorne to cut the Ranger lead to 4-2.

The Rangers put the game away with six runs off just two hits in the top of the sixth.

Patterson retired the first two batters before giving way to Josh Denson. After Sean Johnson beat out an infield hit, Denson proceeded to walk the next four batters to put Northwest up 6-0.

Jesus Aleman issued the fifth straight walk and was called for a balk on the next batter to up Northwest's lead to 8-2. A two-run single by Rick Russell extended the Rangers' lead to 10-2.

Hendrix had a single and stretched a single into a double in the fifth to lead the Warrior offense. Griffin, Jones, George Washington, and Chad Gosselin each had one single.

Hendrix also had the game's defensive gem when he robbed Cregar of a hit with a sliding catch in right-center in the fifth.

Chase Ware (7-1) went the distance, tossing a six-hitter with four walks and four strikeouts, to get the win for Northwest.

Patterson took the loss for EC. He allowed four runs on five hits. He struck out four and walked two.

Russell and Johnson both had two singles for the Rangers, who entered the tournament with a sizzling .364 team batting average.

"We've been a great club all year," said Northwest head coach Mark Carson. "I thought coming into the (region) tournament there was a lack of respect for us. Not anything anybody did personal, but we didn't play real well in the state tournament last week.

"Last weekend, our pitching just let us down and we didn't play like we're capable of playing.

"They helped us a lot today. They almost traded places with us from last week. They didn't throw the ball over the plate, which opened the door for us. Last week, we did the same thing."

APPEARED IN:

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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WEEK OF 5-21-07

East Central Community College's Brian Jones slides safely into second base during play in the NJCAA Region 23 Tournament last week at Meridian Community College. ***Photo by Marty Stamper***

three runs in the bottom of the seventh.

Gregory Stovall took the loss for EC on the mound. He allowed six earned runs on three hits through 2 1/3 innings. He struck out two and walked four.

EC first-year head coach Neal Holliman, who was a first-year assistant at EC when the Diamond Warriors won the 1998 title under the late Jamie Clark, gave most of the praise for this year's team to his assistants — Michael Avalon and Roberto Martinez — and a dedicated group of Diamond Warriors.

"There is no doubt that East Central would not have won the 2007 conference championship without the help and dedication of our players, managers, and assistant coaches. Coach Avalon and Coach Martinez have been a tremendous blessing to me and to the baseball program at East Central and I feel very fortunate to have each of them on our staff.

"Although we got off to a slow start, our players did a great job of continuing to work hard throughout the season. In the beginning, we asked our guys to lay a foundation for this program and to walk on their own foundation. I believe this team truly did just that and I am so proud of what they accomplished. They are a great bunch of guys to be associated with and we are going to miss our eight sophomores, as they have made a tremendous impact on our program."

Holliman was named MACJC Baseball Coach of the Year in recognition of his team's success.

East Central Community College's Terrell Hendrix steals third base in the Region 23 Tournament. ***Photo by Marty Stamper***

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EC goes two-and-out in Region 23 tourney

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

After winning the MACJC State Championship the previous week, the East Central Community College Warriors were never able to get untracked in the NJCAA Region 23 Tournament last week at Meridian Community College.

The Warriors finished 2007 with a 31-23 record.

The Warriors fell 10-2 in the region opener with Northwest Mississippi, then were run ruled again with a 14-6 loss to Gulf Coast on May 15.

EC jumped out to 1-0 first inning lead against Gulf Coast when Terrell Hendrix scored from third on a wild pitch. Hendrix had walked, moved up on a single by Jacob Casey, and took third on a sacrifice by George Washington.

Gulf Coast took a 2-1 lead in the bottom of the second on a two-run single by Nick Cupps.

Casey tied the game at 2-2 with a solo homer in the top of the third.

Gulf Coast, however, took control by playing long ball to get six runs in the bottom of the third. Four came on a grand slam by Bo Bell and two more went on the board on a two-run blast by Jake Olier.

EC tallied twice in the fifth. Washington's triple plated Hendrix and an RBI single by Adam Griffin scored Washington.

The Bulldogs, however, increased their lead with three more runs in the bottom of the fifth.

The Warriors added two more runs in the seventh. Griffin doubled home Washington and scored on a single by Brian Jones.

Gulf Coast brought the eight-run rule into play with

East Central Community College's Josh Denson makes a pitch in the Region 23 Tournament. ***Photo by Marty Stamper***

WEEK OF June 4, 2007

ECCC PHOTO

ATHLETES RECEIVE ECCC BASEBALL AWARDS

Members of East Central Community College's state championship baseball team received honors following the 2007 season. Seated from left are Josh Sheehan; Joshua Denson; and Terrell Hendrix. Standing from left are Jordan Robinson, George Washington, Jesus Aleman, and *Joe Paterson of Morton, second team All-State and most valuable pitcher*. Not pictured is Chris Parkman. After winning the state title, the Diamond Warriors advanced to the Region 23 Tournament and completed season action with a 31-23 mark under first-head head coach Neal Holliman, who was named MACJC Baseball Coach of the Year.

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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7/2/07

Holliman honored as state's top Juco coach

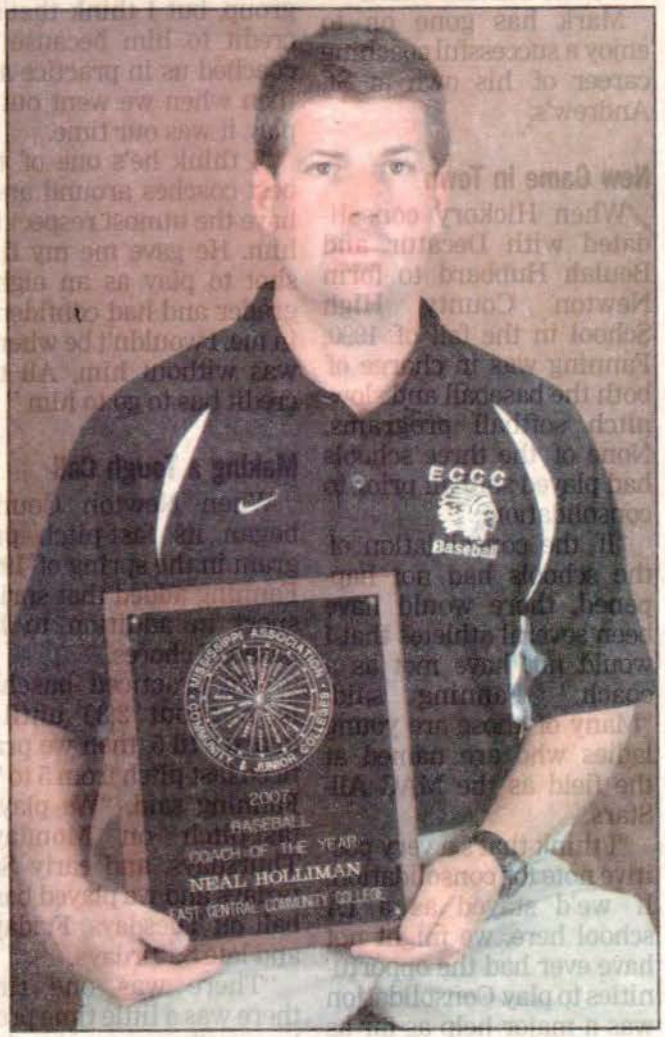
By Robbie Robertson

The Newton Record

East Central Community College's Neal Holliman was named the MACJC Baseball Coach of the Year for the 2007 season.

In his first year as head coach, led the Diamond Warriors to the MACJC State Championship and a 31-23 record, after starting the year with a 12-18 record.

"It just took us a while for things to come together," Holliman said. "You never know what the magic formula is. People talk about having 'it' and you know what 'it' is when you see it. We found out what 'it' is. In the middle of the season, we became a close nit group, accepted their role and understood it. They understood what they had to do to help us win."



EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE PHOTO

ECCC head baseball coach Neal Holliman displays the plaque he received for being named MACJC Baseball Coach of the Year for 2007.

Holliman was hired late in the recruiting process but hit the ground working, bringing in his people and getting a group of players who wanted to be at East Central.

"We weren't the most talented team in the con-

See **HOLLIMAN**, Page 2B

WEEK OF July 2, 2007

Holliman

From Page 1B

ference," Holliman confessed. "You can't beat the people we beat in the last month and half of the season and not execute in the key points of the game and that's what we did. Everybody understood their roll, accepted and understood it."

Holliman points to two key things that turned around the Warriors season. The first was getting swept by Meridian.

"We were playing really well when we got swept by Meridian and didn't feel like we put forth our best effort," Holliman said. "That was the low-point for us. The next week, we went and swept Hinds which was huge. We put ourselves in great position with that sweep."

But the biggest thing came from a simple lineup switch.

"But really, I think the turning point of the entire season was when we put Jordan Robinson in the two-hole in the lineup," Holliman said. "When we put him there, it was like we couldn't do anything wrong. That's when we started to get hot and started winning games. And when he broke his wrist, we put Jacob Casey in the two-hole and never missed a beat. Jordan is an A No. 1 kid and for a stretch there, he couldn't do anything wrong."

As the Warriors dug themselves out of their early hole, they qualified for the state tournament, which they swept through, beating nationally ranked Gulf Coast and Meridian along the way.

"I've been involved in a lot of baseball but I don't think I've been involved in anything like the state tournament," Holliman said. "I know some people won't understand this but I'm telling you the hand of the Lord was on that team. There are some things that happened that's just hard to explain."

Holliman said there were several players that stepped up during the season.

"Terrell Hedrix started for us the last three-quarters of the year in center field and ended up hitting over .400," Holliman said. "Josh Denson was Mr. Consistency for us out of the pen. Those guys stand out but there were so many of them. We really had a team where it took everybody."

With junior college baseball, you never know what the next year bring. But at this point, things are looking up for the Warrior baseball program.

"We should have a talented group in here next year," Holliman said. "Talent is good but how much are you willing to put out. Those are the things that are unmatched. I've seen teams with 12-1 draft guys that couldn't get out o their conference tournament. They didn't have 'it.' I feel good about the recruits we've landed so far. It's easy to look at the program now and be excited but I appreciate the guys like Tyler Nichols out of Neshoba Central who signed with us the first day. He committed on our first visit in January. It makes you appreciated the guys who want to be a part of it."

Holliman said he will have both o his assistant coaches back next year. Michael Avalon was recently hired full-time at the school after spending all of last year in a part-time position. Also coming back is Roberto Martinez who will be a volunteer assistant while he is completing his masters at West Alabama.

"The board just approved adding Michael as a full-time assistant," Holliman said. "I think that says something about him, that the administration like what they saw.

"I think it's important to keep a staff together as long as possible. There's something to be said about having continuity on a coaching staff, especially in junior college baseball."

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NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 16

EC Warrior Inks With BC

DECATUR—At least five members of the state champion East Central Community College baseball team are continuing their careers on the university or four-year college level, announced Diamond Warrior head coach Neal Holliman.

Pitcher ***Joe Patterson of Morton*** signed with Belhaven College.

Patterson, a 6-4, 240-pound right-hander, went 7-6 on the mound and posted a 3.43 ERA through 83 2/3 innings. He fanned 48 batters and had one save. The Morton High School product received second team All-State honors and was selected the Diamond Warriors' most valuable pitcher.

Others moving up the collegiate ranks include: pitcher Josh Denson; catcher/infielder/outfielder Warren Bowling (Mississippi College); pitcher/right fielder George Washington (University of Alabama-Huntsville); and catcher/infielder Jacob Thames (William Woods College).

Patterson

"We are very proud of these young men and truly feel they will have a positive impact on the programs they are joining," said Holliman regarding his former players. "Each one of these guys understands commitment and work ethic, and all were very valuable parts of our championship run. We wish them all the best and thank each of them for making East Central a winner."

The Diamond Warriors completed their state championship season with the Region 23 Tournament en route to a 31-23 record under first-year head coach Holliman, who was named MACJC Baseball Coach of the Year following the successful campaign.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

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WEEK OF Oct. 1/07

State Champion ECCC Diamond Warriors Honored

Members of the 2007 East Central Community College baseball team were presented state championship rings during a ceremony held Thursday, Sept. 13, on the Decatur campus. Team members also received photos from the state championship game and were recognized during halftime ceremonies of ECCC's football game with Jones County Junior College. Members of the championship squad include (kneeling from left) Neal Holliman, head coach; Chad Gosselin, Jacob Casey, Colby Hawthorne, Terrell Hendrix, Jordan Robinson, Jesus Aleman, Chris Parkman, and Gregory Stovall, and (standing) Joe Patterson, Ben McCurdy (manager), Warren Bowling, Jace Hamilton, Josh Lafferty, Josh Denson, Brian Jones, Adam Griffin, Kiel Higginbotham, Carey Miller, Josh Sheehan, Justin Joyner (manager), Robert Westbrook, and assistant coaches Michael Avalon and Roberto Martinez. Not pictured are Daven Willis, Jacob Thames, Daniel Carela, and George Washington. Holliman was also recognized for being named MACJC Division II Baseball Coach of the Year.

EC photo

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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WEEK OF Jan. 1/07

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ECCC Who's Who

Winston County Students Selected for Who's Who
East Central Community College sophomores Joni Mitchell (left) of Louisville and Chasidy Smith of Noxapater were recently selected for Who's Who Among Students in American Community and Junior Colleges. Not pictured are Casey Hill, Paul McMillin and Caylee Sullivan, all of Louisville; and Tyler Walker of Nanih Waiya. Students were nominated by faculty and staff members of the College and were selected based on academic achievement and involvement in extracurricular clubs and organizations. (EC Photo)

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL √

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Jan. 1/07

Thames, Peterson visit ECCC

East Central Community College alumni Marcus Thames (left), a major league baseball player with the Detroit Tigers, and Brad Peterson (right) , Louisville High School head football coach, were recent guest speakers in Lucille Wood's Introduction to Physical Education and Sports class. Both are natives of Louisville and were students of Wood. Thames played in the World Series with the Tigers this past season and was featured in the sports section of the New York Times. He was also selected Most Valuable Player in the Tigers' win over the New York Yankees in the American League playoff game. Peterson was named head coach at Louisville two years ago after stints at Newton and Forest high schools. He led the Wildcats to the state playoffs and an 8-3 record during the 2006 season.

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

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IMPACT _____

Events

WEEK OF Jan. 1/07

WINSTO JOUR

Choir program

ECCC Concert Choir Presents Program

Pictured above are members of the East Central Community College Concert Choir prior to their annual fall concert held recently on the Decatur campus. Members include (seated at piano) accompanist Len Bobo; (front row, from left) Angela Boatner of Philadelphia, Lauryn Laird of Lake, Rachel Thompson of Philadelphia, Nichole Ball of Louisville, Sandy Penn of Forest, Britni Wright of Louisville, Beth Alexander of Little Rock, Rebecca Washburn of Highland, Illinois; Mandy Holdiness of Louisville, Hank Benson of Philadelphia, Christopher Clark of Morton, Anthony Engram of Conehatta, Jared Hollingsworth of Newton, Lee Dooley of Lake, and director Dr. Chris Jenkins; (second row, from left) Cristen Jones of Carthage, Jessica Cochran of Decatur, Angela Moore of Lake, Nakeidea Boone of Carthage, Tyrra Evans of Lake, Suzanne Henry, Chelsey Vincent and Caitlin Harper, all of Decatur; Erin Warren of Philadelphia, Jordan Gibbs of Morton, William Zynosky-Sharpling of Decatur, Noah Cook of Hickory and Jeremy Kennedy of Pelahatchie; (third row, from left) Rhonda May and Heidi Armstrong, both of Newton; Jessica Hollingsworth of Lake, Carrie Peoples and Lucy Burns, both of Carthage; Jessica Cager of Union, Deidra Yarbrough of Philadelphia, Ashley Pace and Kayla McMillan, both of Lake; Nedrick Patrick of Carthage, and Whitney Lott, Kyle Barrett and Anthony Williams, all of Decatur; and (back row, from left) Jenna Jackson of Louisville, Tab Harrell of Forest, Maeganakia Latiker of Carthage, Tasha Warren of Union, Meghan Moulds of Conehatta, Maegan Johnston of Decatur, Hillary Rieger of Pearl, Katie Harper of Meridian, Mandi King of Carthage, Savannah Barksdale of Philadelphia and Vickie Smith of Meridian.

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WEEK OF Jan. 1/07

ECCC Who's Who

These East Central Community College students were recently selected for Who's Who Among Students in American Community and Junior Colleges. Pictured are (front row, from left) Elizabeth Jackson of Lake, Casey Cooper of Forest, Hannah Luke of Preston, Rebecca Myers of Forest, Kim Cleveland and Morgan Milling, both of Union; Shelee' Hurtt of Meridian, Kristina Moore of Enterprise, Loren Kennedy of Union, Joni Mitchell of Louisville, and LaShondra Bradford and Lauren Estes, both of Forest; (second row, from left) Rachel McElhenney of Decatur, Justin Harrell of Edinburg, Clanton Blaylock of Newton, Sarah James of Carthage, David Harmond of Wiggins, Chelsea Brown of Perkinston, Maggie McDill of Decatur, Amanda Schmidt of Carthage, Zoie Hardy of Lawrence, Amanda Miles of Morton, Glenda Cater of Decatur and Krista Chaney of Little Rock; (third row, from left) Megan Thomas, Mitch Rogers and Erik Alexander, all of Forest; Victor Warnsley of Morton, Rebecca Rogers of Chunky, Delynn Agee of Philadelphia, Carol Creel of Trussville, Alabama; Jessi McDaniel and Josh Graham, both of Decatur; Tony Gannon of Newton, Brittany Alexander of Little Rock, Morgan Stringer of Decatur and Chasidy Smith of Noxapater; and (back row, from left) Jess Dilley of Forest, Joe Buntyn of Union, Caleb Page of Newton, Steven Cullen of Carthage, Joshua Skinner of Union, Lee Blackburn of Lawrence, Jordan Robinson of Union, Frank Dixon of Philadelphia, Shannon Davis of Forest, Donny Massey of Philadelphia, Ryan Loper of Decatur and Tavarius Walker of Morton. Not pictured are Colby Amis and Marie Hoy, both of Decatur; Brittany Barfield and Shirley White, both of Carthage; Angela Boatner, Celeste Burt, Cassidy Byars, Andy Johnson, Lauren Thrash and Briana Stinson, all of Philadelphia; Lee Dooley and Lauryn Laird, both of Lake; Andrea Dubose and Roxanne Wilson, both of Hickory; Bobby Engle, Tabatha Ash Harrell and Raquel Hollingsworth, all of Forest; Brittney Harper of Meridian, Casey Hill, Paul McMillin and Caylee Sullivan, all of Louisville; Michael Prersendieu of Kissimee, Florida; and Tyler Walker of Nanih Waiya.

APPEARED IN:

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL √

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Jan. 1/07

ECCC PHOTO

SELECTED FOR WHO'S WHO

These East Central Community College sophomores from Scott County were recently selected for Who's Who Among Students in American Community and Junior Colleges. Pictured are (front row, from left) Amanda Miles of Morton and Lauren Estes, LaShondra Bradford and Casey Cooper, all of Forest; (second row, from left) Megan Thomas, Rebecca Myers and Jess Dilley, all of Forest; and Tavarius Walker of Morton; and (back row, from left) Erik Alexander and Shannon Davis, both of Forest; Victor Warnsley of Morton and Mitch Rogers of Forest. Not pictured are Lee Dooley and Lauryn Laird, both of Lake; and Bobby Engle, Tabatha Ash Harrell and Raquel Hollingsworth, all of Forest. Students were nominated by faculty and staff members of the College and were selected based on academic achievement and involvement in extracurricular clubs and organizations.

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES √

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON √

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Jan. 1/07

ECCC PBL OFFICERS: These students currently serve as officers of Theta Chi Chapter of Phi Beta Lambda at East Central Community College in Decatur. Front row, from left: President Delynn Agee of Philadelphia, Vice President Rebecca Rogers of Chunky, and Historian Tammie Davis of Lena; and (standing, from left) Parliamentarian Terry Smith and Treasurer Jeffery Davis, both of Louisville; Secretary Roxanne Wilson of Hickory and Reporter Leslie Nash of Union. Christy Ferguson serves as sponsor. Phi Beta Lambda is an organization for business students.Its purpose is to foster a better relationship between students and to cultivate a better understanding of business principles in general.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Jan. 8/07

Philadelphia couple establishes ECCC scholarship

A Philadelphia couple has established a scholarship for local students who attend East Central Community College in Decatur.

The Ronnie and Michele Jones Scholarship provides two semesters of tuition – valued at $1400 – to a Neshoba Central High School graduate who meets the scholarship qualifications.

The successful business owners, who are franchisees and owners of Sonic Drive-In restaurants, established the following requirements for scholarship recipients:

(1) must have demonstrated leadership abilities while attending Neshoba Central High School;

(2) must have demonstrated high moral standards with good character;

(3) must be active in a Christian church;

(4) must be enrolled as a full-time student at ECCC;

(5) must have a 3.0 or higher GPA; and

(6) must not have been involved in any activity that would bring discredit to East Central Community College.

The scholarship recipient will be selected annually by the Neshoba Central High School Scholarship Committee, dependent upon availability of funding.

For more information contact the Office of Development and Alumni Relations at ECCC, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-4621-3222, ext. 327. The email address is sholling@eccc.edu.

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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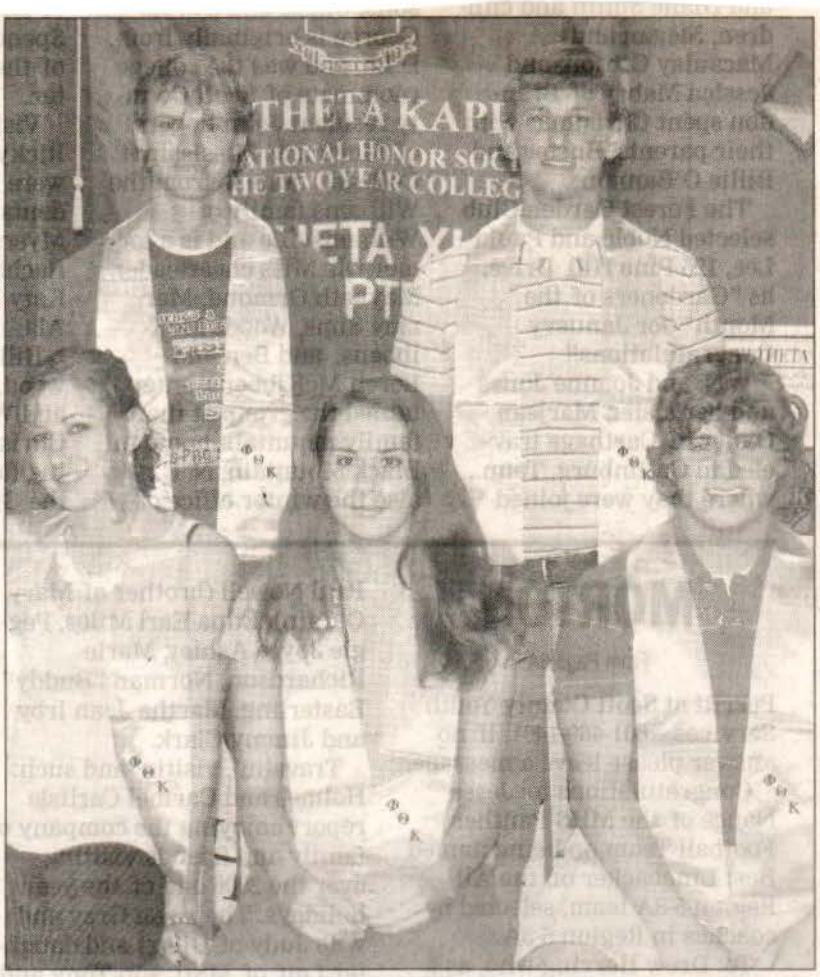
CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Jan. 8/07



ECCC PHOTO

SCOTT COUNTY STUDENTS INDUCTED INTO ECCC HONOR SOCIETY

These East Central Community College students from Scott County were inducted into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society of the two-year college, during fall induction ceremonies held recently on the Decatur campus.

Pictured are (seated, from left) Nikki Richardson and Lauryn Laird, both of Lake; and Ryan Parker of Morton; and (standing, from left) Andy Woods of Forest and Doug Kelley of Sebastopol. Not pictured are Andy Anderson of Morton and Bethany Sharp of Sebastopol.

The purpose of Phi Theta Kappa is to promote scholarship, to develop character and to cultivate fellowship among academically superior students. Membership is by invitation only. To be eligible, students must have earned a 3.5 or better grade point average as a full-time student and have an overall grade point average of 3.5 or better.

Sylvia Wright and Deborah Hammons serve as Theta Xi sponsors.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIME _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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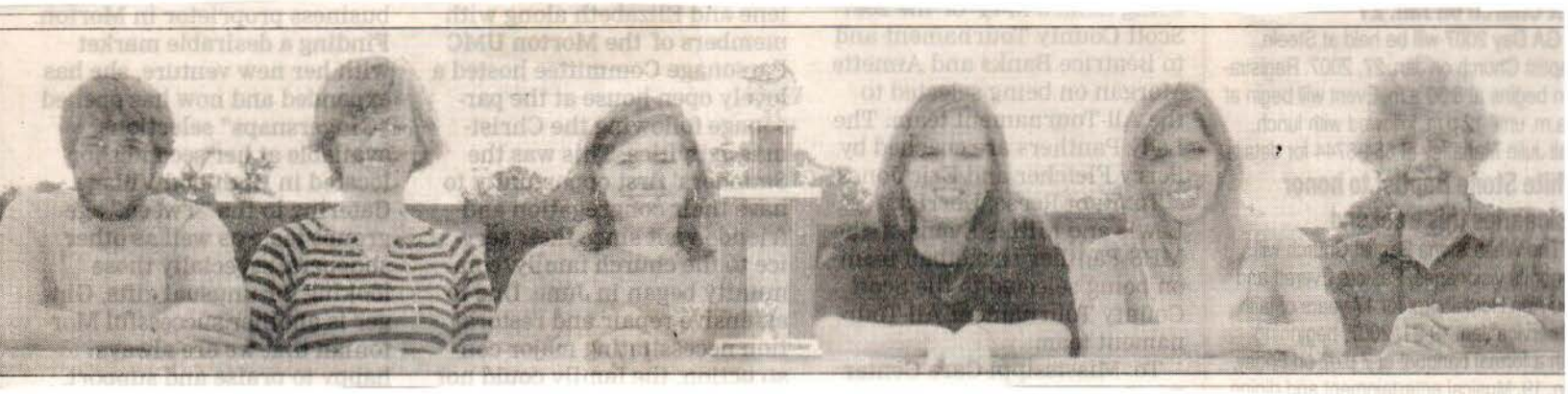
OTHER _____

WEEK OF Jan. 15/07



ECCC PHOTO

SCHOLARS BOWL TEAM WINS

At left, members of the East Central Community College Scholars Bowl team display the trophy they won for placing second in the South Mississippi Scholars Tournament held recently at Southwest Mississippi Community College in Summit. From left are Stewart and Marie Hoy of Decatur, Raquel Hollingsworth of Forest, Beth Alexander of Little Rock, Ashley Henley of Hickory and sponsor Dr. Linda Lane. Not pictured are team members Nichole Ball of Louisville and Victor Warnsley of Morton. Six community/junior college teams participated in the one-day event, won by the host school.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

Graduation

WEEK OF Jan. 15/07

Complete ECCC Health Care Assistant Program

Above are the first graduates of East Central Community College's Health Care Assistant program, who are shown displaying certificates received for completing the one-semester course of study. Seated from left are Taneka McWilliams of Meridian, Terri Windham and Tina McMullan, both of Decatur; and Jessica Mowdy of Philadelphia. Standing from left are Felisha Allende of Newton, Jacqueline Hunt of Ackerman, Tawanna McDaniel of Newton and Brooke Harrell of Morton. Also pictured is instructor Tosha Sanders. Not pictured is graduate Nastassia Wesley of Choctaw. Students who complete the program qualify for employment as nurse assistants, long-term care aides or home-health aides. For more information contact Tosha Sanders, ECCC, Decatur, MS, 39327, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 131. The email address is tsanders@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Jan 22/07

2007 Relay for Life rally Feb. 20

Residents of Newton County can expect to see a little more purple around town as the community prepares for the 2007 Relay For Life, the American Cancer Society's team event to fight cancer. Purple is the signature color of Relay For Life, and the event will return to Newton County on Friday, June 15, 2007.

A kick off planned for Tuesday, February 20, 2007 will officially get the new Relay season underway.

Relay For Life is the largest cancer fund raiser in the nation. Held in more than 4,200 communities nationwide last year, the event brings participants together to raise money for cancer research, education, advocacy and patient support programs.

The 2006 Relay For Life in Newton County was a successful event, raising $58,665 for the American Cancer Society. "We are looking forward to building on last year's event and are excited about having new teams and participants join us," said Beth Dickson, Executive Director of the American Cancer Society. "This kick off is just the beginning of great things to come."

The public is invited to learn more about Relay For Life at the kick off on Tuesday, February 20, 2007 in the board room of the Walter Arno Vincent Administration Building of East Central Community College in Decatur, MS. The kick off starts at 5:30 p.m..

For more information about Relay For Life, call the American Cancer Society anytime at 1-800-ACS-2345 or visit www.cancer.org.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL √

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Jan. 22/07

A Security Car Presented to ECCC. Union Mayor Max Sessums is shown handing over the keys to a 1999 Ford Crown Victoria to Captain Willie Lathem of Eagle Security during a presentation held recently at East Central Community College in Decatur. Also shown are (from left) Union Police Chief Ben Harper, ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin and Joe Killens, vice president for student services. Dr. Sutphin said the College "is most appreciative" to Mayor Sessums and the City of Union for providing ECCC with the security vehicle. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓ _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Jan. 22/07

Marcie Pinson added to EC administrative staff

Marcie Wall Pinson of Little Rock was recently selected secretary to the vice president of student services at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

Pinson, who began her new duties on January 2, 2007, previously served as psychosocial rehabilitation coordinator at Weems Community Mental Health Center. She is also a former administrative assistant to the vice president of Community Bank in Forest.

A 1998 graduate of Scott Central High School, Pinson received an Associate of Arts degree from ECCC in 2000 and earned a bachelor's degree in educational psychology from Mississippi State University in 2002.

She is married to Toby Pinson who serves as a conservation officer with the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks.

Pinson is a former member of the ECCC baseball team.

They have a two-year-old daughter, Madelynn-Klaire Pinson.

They are members of Salem Baptist Church in Lake.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Jan. 22/07

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY GRADUATES

These graduates of East Central Community College's surgical technology program were recognized for their achievement at the annual pinning ceremony held December 14 in the Vickers Fine Arts Center on the Decatur campus. Members of the Class of 2006 are (first row, from left) Denise Brazzle, Philadelphia; Ackana J. Wesley, Newton; Brandi Chambers, Forest; and Candace Copeland, Philadelphia; (second row, from left) Veronica Lynn Larkin, Decatur; Crystal Harbour, DeKalb; Kristi M. Keene, Union; and Demetrius Keyes, Hickory; (third row, from left) Nikki Mitchell, Union; Kristy Woodruff, Louisville; Conswella T. Spencer, Philadelphia; (fourth row, from left) Chris Gipson, Decatur; Melody McNall, Meridian; and Shelly McGuire, Union; and (fifth row, from left) Tina Laster, Forest; and Terrance Burgin, Columbus. Gipson was also selected "Surgical Technology Student of the Year." LeAnn Shirley and Kristie Pilgrim serve as instructors for the 12-month program.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Jan. 29/07

ECCC Nursing Students at Scott Regional Hospital

East Central Community College second semester associate degree nursing students doing their clinical rotation at Scott Regional Hospital are pictured left to right, seated, Jeri Thompson, Brenda Kirby, instructor; Shirley Denton; standing, Jessica Nettles, Lacey Williams, Charles C. Beavers, Leeana Revette, Brad McKinley and Sean Self.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON √

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Feb. 5/07

Cast members for the upcoming East Central Community College Players musical presentation of "The Spitfire Grill," include (seated, from left) Tab Harrell (Shelby Thorpe) of Forest, Rebecca Bene' (Hannah Ferguson) of Decatur, Macey Fleming (Percy Talbott) of Prattville, Ala., and Beth Alexander (Effy Krayneck) of Little Rock; and (standing, from left) Steven Cullen (Caleb Thorpe) of Carthage, Whitney Lott (The Visitor) and Jordan Hammons (Sheriff Joe Sutter), both of Decatur; and understudies/stage crew members Brittany Alexander of Little Rock and Jenna Jackson of Louisville. Not pictured is Hillary Rieger, who serve as understudy/stage crew member. Performances are at 7 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, February 22-24, in the Vickers Fine Arts Auditorium on the Decatur campus. A matinee performance is schedule for 9 a.m. on Wednesday, February 21. The musical is directed by Stan Tucker, ECCC speech and theater instructor.

EC Players to present 'Spitfire Grill'

Special to The Record

The East Central Community College Players will present their spring musical selection, "The Spitfire Grill," at 7 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, Feb. 22-24, in the Vickers Fine Arts Auditorium on the Decatur campus. A matinee performance is schedule for 9 a.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 21. Tickets are $5.

In this musical presentation, based on the film by Lee David Zlotoff, feisty parolee Percy Talbott follows her dreams, based on a page from an old travel book, to a small town in Wisconsin and finds a place for herself working at Hannah's Spitfire Grill.

"I think people will really enjoy this show," said Director Stan Tucker, who also serves as a speech instructor at the College. "The story is uplifting and tells how one girl brings hope to a small town. The music is really great and I hope everyone will come out and see it."

For more information call 1-601-635-2111 or toll free 1-877-462-3222.

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Feb 5/07

ECCC hosts First Annual Pow Wow

Native American cultural dances will be performed and various arts and crafts will be on display when the first annual "Warrior Pow Wow" is held Saturday, Feb. 10, on the East Central Community College campus in Decatur.

Sponsored by the College's Native American Association Club, the free event is scheduled from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. at Warrior Stadium. In case of rain, activities will be moved to the South Campus gym.

Many of the arts and crafts on display will also be available for purchase as will various food items, according to club member Christina Thomas of Conehatta. Thomas invites the public to attend the event and learn more about Native American customs.

"We want everyone to come out and learn about our culture and support the Native American Club at ECCC," she said.

For more info contact Christina Thomas, Phone 601-635-2111, ext. 219 or call 601-575-3794.

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Feb. 5/07

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Finalizing plans for "Warrior Pow Wow"

(EC PHOTO)

ECCC Hosts First Annual 'Warrior Pow Wow' February 10

Native American cultural dances will be performed and various arts and crafts will be on display when the first annual "Warrior Pow Wow" is held Saturday, February 10, 2007, on the East Central Community College campus in Decatur. Sponsored by the College's Native American Association Club, the free event is scheduled from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. at Warrior Stadium. In case of rain, activities will be moved to the South Campus gym. Many of the arts and crafts on display will also be available for purchase as will various food items, according to club member Christina Thomas of Conehatta. Thomas invites the public to attend the event and learn more about Native American customs.

"We want everyone to come out and learn about our culture and support the Native American Club at ECCC," she said.

For more information contact Christina Thomas, Phone 601-635-2111, ext. 219 or call 601-575-3794.

Reviewing the list of activities planned for the first annual "Warrior Pow Wow" are Native American Association club members (from left) Delynn Agee of Choctaw, Christina Thomas of Conehatta, Meshi Thomas of Bogue Chitto and Jaris Shoemake of Conehatta.

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CARTHAGINIAN ✓

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Feb. 5/07

ECCC students present 'Knowledge Is King'

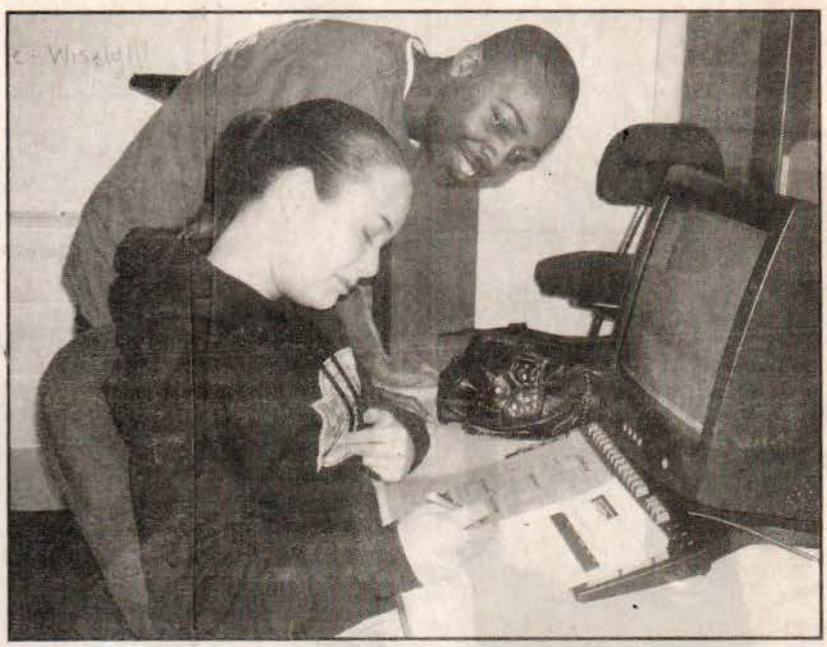
Members of East Central Community College's Theta Chi chapter of Phi Beta Lambda business fraternity sacrificed their extra time during exam week to help local high school students understand the meaning of "Knowledge is King," according to PBL advisor Christy Ferguson.

"PBL members visited the Winston/Louisville Vocational Complex on Friday, December 15, 2006, and presented activities on 'Knowledge is King.' The activities allowed students to find specific occupational information about careers that they might pursue," Ferguson explained. "Students then determined if their career would exceed Mississippi's cost of living plus various expenses."

The group also led students in an activity titled, "10-Year Class Reunion." During this activity, students were to decide if "Jack," a student who went straight to work after completing high school, or "Diane," a student who worked part-time and received a college degree, would have the most money upon returning for their 10-year class reunion.

Ferguson said members concluded the exercise by promoting saving for the future. Participants were also guided through an exercise to show them how competitive the job market is and how important pursuing higher education will be to their future. Participates also completed a survey in which 100 percent said they plan to attend college and plan to save an average of $150 per month.

According to Ferguson, "PBL members believe the presentation was a success and felt it was time well spent. Members believed that they made a difference in helping others and did not regret spending their first few days of the Christmas break helping others believe that 'Knowledge Is King'."



ECCC Phi Beta Lambda member Terry Smith (standing) of Louisville assists Jessica White (seated), a Business and Computer Technology student at Winston-Louisville Vocational Complex, during the group's presentation on "Knowledge is King." During the presentation students were told how to find specific occupational information about careers that they might pursue and they were also encouraged to save for their future.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Feb. 5/07

Photo display

East Central Community College sophomore Joshua Skinner of Union is shown with a collection of his photos which were displayed in Burton Library during the month of January. In the top photo, Skinner is shown with his creation titled "Demovista," which includes a series of photos depicting the lock and dam at Demopolis, Ala. Skinner said he combined six scenes into three 20 x 30 prints following about 30 hours of work utilizing the Adobe Photoshop computer program. The collection of photos under glass represents 11 of his "most favorite" works of art. Included in the display are various nature scenes, a photo of a youngster offering his assistance in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina on the Gulf Coast, and a ground-level close-up of the now deceased "Iggy," a Iguana and long-time "mascot" in the College's biology department. Skinner, a pre-med major, serves as staff photographer for The Tom-Tom, ECCC's campus newspaper. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Feb. 12/07

Black history program set at ECCC

Black History Month will be observed during a program Wednesday, Feb. 28, at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Activities begin at 7 p.m. in the Vickers Fine Arts Center auditorium.

Rev. Rodney Young, pastor of Sand Ridge M.B. Church in Newton and Mt. Pleasant M.B. Church of Lauderdale County, will be guest speaker.

The event is sponsored by the ECCC Gospel Choir, which will also perform.

The public is invited free of charge.

For more information telephone 601-635-2111 or, toll free, 1-877-462-3222.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

SPIRIT OF MORTON

OTHER

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT

NEWTON RECORD

MERIDIAN STAR

CLARION-LEDGER

IMPACT

WEEK OF Feb. 12/07

THE MERIDIAN STAR
Friday, February 16, 2007

Catching up with ...

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UNION APPEAL

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

SPIRIT OF MORTON

OTHER

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

CLARION-LEDGER

IMPACT

Feb 12/07

FILE PHOTO

LUCILLE WOOD

Bubby Johnston, vice president for public information at East Central Community College, wrote last year's cover story for Leisure on Lucille Wood, whose 52 years of service to Mississippi's community and junior colleges are an education milestone. Recognized by the Mississippi Board for Community and Junior Colleges as the longest tenured faculty or staff member currently serving the state's two-year colleges, Wood is now in her 53rd year in education. "I've said I'll continue to the 2007-2008 school year — and then I'll play it by year," said Wood, a physical education/education instructor and former coach. Wood said the Decatur campus' "interesting students" are her motivation to continue. "I enjoy what I do. I really don't know what else I would do that would be as interesting," she said. "I don't care about traveling. I don't watch TV. I'm not married and my family is small. I guess you could say I'm married to ECCC."

WEEK OF Feb. 12/07

Humanities council honors Tony Kinton

In ceremonies Friday in Jackson, Leake County's Tony Kinton was recognized by the Mississippi Humanities Council.

In ceremonies for the 2006 Public Humanities Achievement Awards, Kinton was among a host of recipients of Humanities Teacher Awards.

The recognition reflected a presentation made in October by East Central Community College.

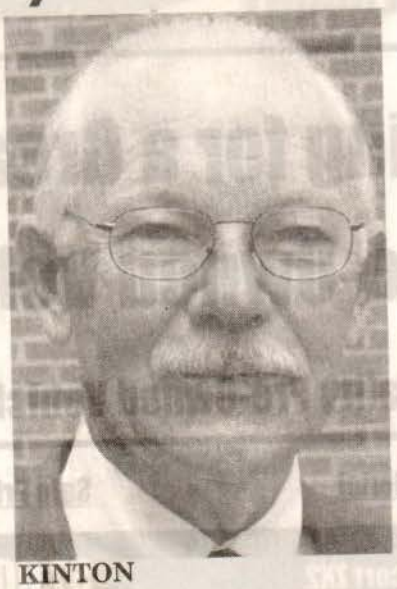
The teacher awards were part of Arts and Humanities Month in October, and 32 teachers were honored.

Those honored presented public lectures on topics in their fields for students, colleges and the public.

Kinton, a Leake County native, joined the ECCC faculty full time in 1999, after teaching advanced placement English and Mississippi writers at Philadelphia High School for seven years.

He has also taught English as an adjunct instructor for Meridian Community College and ECCC.

At ECCC he teaches developmental English, English composition I, and American literature.



KINTON

tion and Southeastern Outdoor Press Association.

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CARTHAGINIAN √

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

Feb 12/07

In 2003 he represented East Central as a lamplighter at the state Lamplighter Conference.

He has long been active professionally as a writer, primarily in the field of outdoors.

He placed his first article in 1976 with *Church Recreational,* and since then has published four books and more than 1,500 articles in state, regional and national magazines.

His writing assignments have taken him across the United States and to four Canadian provinces, Honduras and the Republic of South Africa.

He serves as hunting editor for *Primitive Archer,* field editor for *Blackpowder Hunting* and *Cabela's Outfitter Journal,* columnist for *Mossy Oak's Hunting* and *Country,* and columnist for *Today in Mississippi.*

His work also appears under various titles published by Harris Publications of New York, and is a regular contributor to *Mississippi Outdoors.*

Kinton is active in Professional Outdoor Media Associa-

WEEK OF Feb. 12/07

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

TODD SCHOLARSHIP: Ann Todd (center) of Chunky presents a $1,000 check to Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, president of East Central Community College in Decatur, to fund the Dustan Todd Memorial Scholarship for the 2007-08 school year. The scholarship – which provides $500 for the fall semester and $500 for the spring term – will be awarded for the first time at Newton County High School's Awards Day later this spring. Mrs. Todd and other family members established the scholarship in memory of her son, who lost his life in a motorcycle accident on April 28, 2004. A NCHS graduate, Todd was a member of the ECCC Class of 2004 and was a drafting and design technology major. The Dustan Todd Memorial Scholarship will be presented to a NCHS graduate who is enrolled in the College's drafting and design technology program and meets the other scholarship criteria. Also shown is Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for Foundation and Alumni Relations.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD √

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Feb. 19/07

EC sophomore class favorites

East Central Community College in ecatur recently selected sophomore class favorites. Pictured are (from left) Daniel Pilgrim, Edinburg, Kim Cleveland, Union, Colby Amis, Decatur, Tiffamy Boyd, Newton, Delynn Agee, Choctaw, Caleb Page, Newton, and Charleigh Alford, Philadelphia. Not pictured are Zac Richardson of Louisville, Jacob Thames of Mendenhall and Loren Kennedy of Union.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Feb. 19/07

WINSTON JOUR

ECCC Freshman Class Favorites

These students were recently selected freshman class favorites at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured are (from left) Skye Tindall of Newton, Meagan Johnston of Decatur, Kentoreya Howard of Louisville, Kaleb Rice of Newton and Marty Boatner of Louisville. Not pictured is Nichole Ball of Louisville. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Feb. 14/07

IN DECATUR

Selling 'The Spitfire Grill'

After deciding to auction off the grill, Shelby (Tab Harrell of Forest, at left) quenches her thirst as Hannah (Rebecca Bene' of Decatur, center) and Percy (Macey Fleming of Prattville, Ala., right) read letters from interested buyers during rehearsals for the East Central Community College Players' upcoming production of "The Spitfire Grill." Performances are scheduled at 7 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, February 22-24, in the Vickers Fine Arts Auditorium on the Decatur campus. A matinee performance is schedule for 9 a.m. on Wednesday, February 21. Tickets are $5. For more information or to purchase tickets call 1-601-635-2111 or toll free 1-877-462-3222.

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Feb. 19/07

PBL Silent Auction

Phi Beta Lambda member Rebecca Rogers (left) of Chunky assists EC faculty member Kevin Ryals (center) during the organization's silent auction held recently in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. At right is PBL member Felica Futch of Forest, who was checking on the bidding process.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Feb. 19/07

ECCC PHOTO

COUNSELOR VISITS CAMPUS

Marcus D. Ellis, Jr., (right) of Walnut Grove, Drug Court Counselor for the Eighth Judicial District, recently gave an informative presentation to East Central Community College students on the number-one drug problem in America today: Alcohol. Ellis showed a film on the "life-changing, devastating effects of drug and alcohol abuse" on teenagers to conclude his presentation in the Vickers Fine Arts Center on the Decatur campus. Ellis, an ECCC alumnus, is shown following his remarks with College nurse Gloria Rigdon, who arranged the program. The Eighth Judicial District includes Leake, Scott, Newton and Neshoba counties.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

SPIRIT OF MORTON

OTHER

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR

CLARION-LEDGER

IMPACT

WEEK OF Feb. 26/07

Phi Theta Kappa Inductees

Carli O'Steen and Beau Rhinewalt, both of Morton, were recent inductees into the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society, Theta Xi Chapter, at East Central Community College. Phi Theta Kappa recognizes and encourages scholarship among two-year college students. Inductees are chosen based on academic excellence, leadership and service.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Feb. 26/07

ECCC renames stadium

from school reports

The football stadium at East Central Community College in Decatur has a new name, following recent action by the college's Board of Trustees.

The facility is now known as "Louise and Bill Bailey Stadium," in recognition of the Decatur couple's substantial donation to help construct a new entrance to the facility and other improvements.

The Baileys, owners of the Decatur Telephone Company, presented a $100,000 check to ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin to complete the fundraising project, which had reached the $62,000-mark prior to their generous contribution.

In recommending the name change to the ECCC Board, Dr. Sutphin remarked, "The Baileys have provided many services to EC and the surrounding area, and it is with great respect for Bill and Louise Bailey that we name the football stadium in their honor."

Dr. Sutphin said the construction project was estimated to cost "about $100,000," and thanks to the Bailey contribution, additional improvements will be made to the stadium.

"We now have about $162,000 in the bank for the stadium project and another $9,000 is pledged from a local industry," Dr. Sutphin said. "With these funds, we will be able to make numerous improvements to the facility."

Other projects planned for the stadium include new fencing with brick columns, an archway for football players to enter the stadium, a field marking system, stadium skirting, and chair-back seats.

"It is our goal to make the Louis and Bill Bailey Stadium a first-class facility," Dr. Sutphin said.

The fundraising effort to construct a new stadium entrance began with a $25,000 contribution from La-Z-Boy South in Newton. Approximately 75 donor bricks have also been sold for $100 each and are still available by contacting the Office of Foundation and Alumni Relations, phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 327.

Dr. Sutphin said the college's maintenance department will construct the new entrance, which is scheduled to be completed prior to the 2007 football season.

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Feb. 26/07

ECCC Diamond Darlings

Providing support for the 2007 East Central Community College baseball team are the above members of the Diamond Darlings, who include (first row, from left) Andrea Rash and Brittany Germany, both of Union; Lauren Estes, Forest; Jennifer Sistrunk, Carthage; and Beka Crocker, Louisville; (second row, from left) Valerie Johnson and Amber Eaves, both of Nanih Waiya; Carol Creel, Birmingham; Kayla Wilson, Sebastopol; and Lara Burt, Louisville; and (top row, from left) Hannah Miles, Nanih Waiya; Anna Rouse, Union; and Meghan Moulds, Conehatta. Katie Sparkman serves as sponsor. (EC Photo)

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Feb. 26/07

Rigby, Thomas Named Mr., Miss ECCC

Anse Rigby, a graduate of Forest High School, and Megan Thomas, a graduate of Scott Central High School, were recently selected Mr. and Miss East Central Community College following elections held on the Decatur campus.

Rigby, a nursing major, is the son of Bill Rigby of Forest and the late Regina Rigby. He is the grandson of Jean Rigby and the late Hot Rigby of Forest and Ina Gibbs of Forest and the late Sydney Gibbs, Jr. of Newton.

He is a member of the College's show choir, Ac'cents, and serves as a manager for the Lady Warrior soccer team. Rigby has been a member of the Baptist Student Union Praise Band for two years and also serves as a member of Warrior Corps, a group of students who assist in recruiting and serve as hosts for various campus events.

He has also earned the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest award in scouting.

Thomas, a speech pathology major, is the daughter of Debora Thomas of Forest and Jim and Terri Thomas of Pelahatchie. She is the granddaughter of Ruby Coker of Harperville and the late J.W. Coker and Kate Thomas of Union and the late James Thomas.

She serves as vice president of the Student Body Association and editor of the Wo-He-Lo yearbook. She is also a member of the Baptist Student Union Council, the BSU drama team, Students Against Destructive Decisions, Presidents' Council, Wesley Foundation and Warrior Corps. In addition, she was named to Who's Who Among Students in American Community Colleges and was also selected a freshman class favorite.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES √

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD √

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Feb. 26/07

Wood makes donation

Wood Makes Annual ECCC Donation
Jim Wood (right) of Louisville recently made his annual contribution to the East Central Community College golf team and is shown presenting some of the 25 dozen practice golf balls he collected to Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for Foundation and Alumni Relations. Wood, who also made a monetary contribution to the team, is a member of the ECCC Class of 1949 and will be honored during Homecoming 2007 along with other members of the 1947 Warrior football team. He was inducted into the College's Athletic Hall of Fame in 1995. His sister is longtime ECCC faculty member and former coach Lucille Wood, who in 1986 became the second member of the College's Athletic Hall of Fame. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL √

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

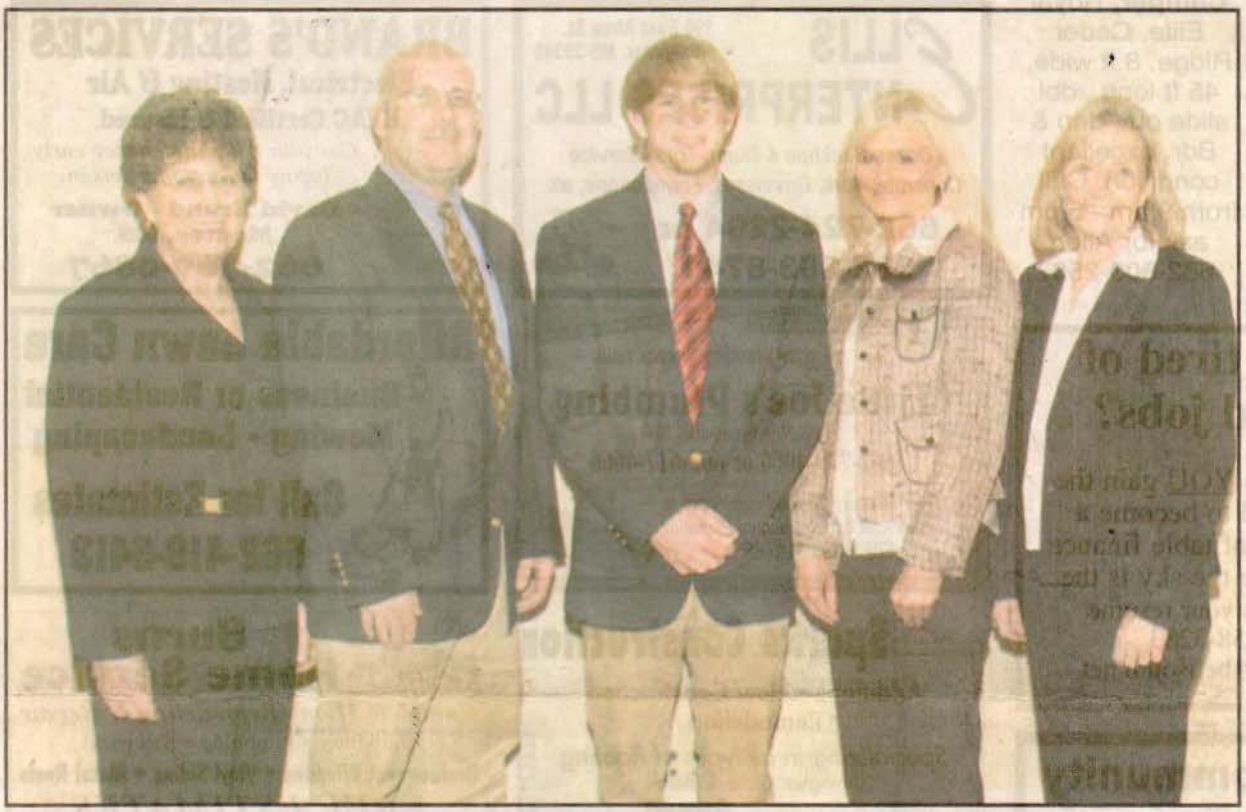
NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Feb. 26/07



ECCC's Ryals, Amis Honored

Speech instructor Kevin Ryals (second from left) of Louisville and sophomore Colby Amis (third from left) of Decatur represented East Central Community College at the 20th Annual HEADWAE (Higher Education Appreciation Day: Working Toward Academic Excellence) banquet held in Jackson on Tuesday, Feb. 20. Also pictured are (from left) Sue Ann Ryals, mother of Kevin Ryals; Cheryl Amis, Colby's mother; and Linda Pierce, Colby's grandmother. The ECCC honorees were recognized along with other outstanding instructors and students representing Mississippi colleges and universities. The HEADWAE program is sponsored by the Mississippi Legislature and coordinated by the Mississippi Association of Colleges. The state's corporate community also provides support. (Photo courtesy Steve Diffey, Holmes Community College Public Information Office)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER ✓

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF March 5/07

9 countians join ECCC honors group

Nine Leake County students were among approximately 70 East Central Community College students tapped for membership into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa during the spring induction ceremony on the Decatur campus.

Membership in the international honor society for two-year colleges is by invitation only and requires a minimum 3.5 grade point average.

New members and their hometowns include:

Justin Taylor Harrell, Edinburg; Lucy Diane Burns, Cristen Shalane Jones, Barbara Jean Pitts, Katherine Elizabeth Taylor and Rebecca Carol Wilbanks, all of Carthage;

Cheryl Lynn Dowell and Courtney Nicole Elkins, both of Lena; and Matthew Brent Wilkerson, Walnut Grove.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

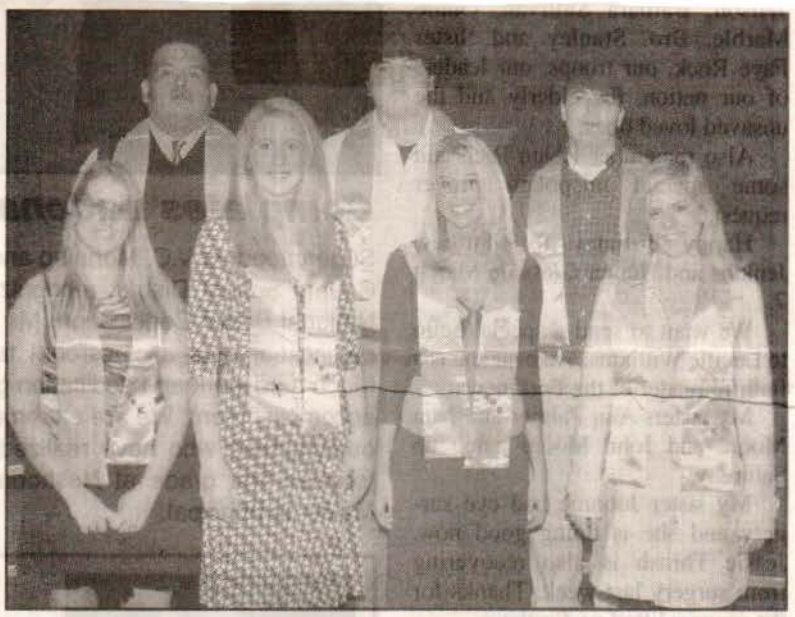
NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF March 5/07



Neshoba students in ECCC honor society

These East Central Community College students from Neshoba County were among the approximately 70 new members of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, who were recognized during the spring induction ceremony held on the Decatur campus. Membership in the prestigious organization is by invitation only and requires a minimum 3.5 grade point average. Inductees include (front row, from left) Candace Long and Elizabeth Henderson, both of Philadelphia; Brittany White, Union; and Julie Gaines, Philadelphia; and (back row, from left) Frank Dixon, Choctaw; and Rick Parks and Travis Page, both of Philadelphia. ECCC faculty members Debbie Hammons and Sylvia Wright serve as Theta Xi advisers. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT √

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF March 5/07

Receive second in FBLA Global Business competition

These students from Choctaw Central High School received second place honors in the Global Business competition held during the 2007 Central District Conference of Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) hosted by East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured are (from left) Howard Tubby, Felicia Robinson and Whitney Ben. Also pictured is Wayne Eason, ECCC Dean of Career-Technical Education. Award winners advance to state competition scheduled April 12-13 in Jackson. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT √

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF March 5/07

Receives fifth place in FBLA Network Design Competition

These students from Neshoba Central High School received fifth place honors in the Network Design competition held during the 2007 Central District Conference of Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) hosted by East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured are (from left) Jamie Thomas and Krystal Ward. Also pictured is Wayne Eason, ECCC Dean of Career-Technical Education. Award winners advance to state competition scheduled April 12-13 in Jackson. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT √

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF March 5/07

ECCC PHOTO

RECEIVE TOP HONORS IN AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE TECH COMPETITION

These students received top honors in the "Automotive Service Technology" competition in the Mississippi SkillsUSA Championships for District III held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Approximately 400 area students participated in the annual event. Pictured are (from left) Jordan Durham, first place, McKellar Technology Center in Columbus; Steven Howell, second, Millsaps Career and Technology Center in Starkville; and Robert Patrick, third, Forest-Scott County Career and Technology Center. Also pictured is Wayne Eason, ECCC Dean of Career and Technical Education. First through third place winners advance to state competition.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF March 5/07

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

BEASLEY COMPLETES APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM AT ECCC: Robby Beasley (left) of Bailey recently completed the Level Five Industrial Maintenance Apprenticeship Program offered through East Central Community College's Integrated Technologies Training Center in Choctaw. Beasley is employed as a Maintenance Technician at La-Z-Boy in Newton. He is shown receiving a certificate of completion from Joseph Knight, ECCC Workforce Development Coordinator.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF March 12/07

Winston Students In ECCC Honor Society

These East Central Community College students from Winston County were among the approximately 70 new members of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, who were recognized during the spring induction ceremony held on the Decatur campus. Membership in the prestigious organization is by invitation only and requires a minimum 3.5 grade point average. Inductees include (first row, from left) Jamie Collins and Kayla Coward, both of Noxapater; and Hannah Miles and Ryan Greenwood, both of Nanih Waiya; and (back row, from left) Amber Eaves, Nanih Waiya; Nichole Ball and Lara Burt, both of Louisville; and Valerie Johnson, Nanih Waiya. ECCC faculty members Debbie Hammons and Sylvia Wright serve as Theta Xi advisers. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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WEEK OF March 12/07

ECCC cheerleaders announced for 2007-08 term

Cheerleaders for East Central Community College football and basketball teams have been selected for the 2007-08 school term, announced sponsor Huellen Watson.

New squad members and their respective high schools are Kayla Adcock, Winston Academy; Dekota Anthony and Phillip Vines, both of Neshoba Central; Kasey Covert and Anna Munn, both of West Lauderdale; Juley Taylor, East Rankin Academy; Emily Thrash, Sebastopol; and Noah Cook, Newton County. Alternates are Tiffany Thomas of Winston Academy and Sharla Joyner of Newton County.

Returning cheerleaders are Dru Anderson, Newton County; Elaina James, Sylva Bay Academy; Adam Brown, Lake; Dustin Evans, Collins; and Tavares Walker, Morton.

The new slate was chosen following tryouts held earlier this spring on the Decatur campus.

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF March 12/07

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC PHI THETA KAPPA OFFICERS

hese East Central Community College students serve as officers of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges. The group recently assisted in the induction of new chapter members at the annual spring semester ceremony held in the Vickers Fine Arts Center on the Decatur campus. From left are Paige Posey of Philadelphia, vice president for leadership; Victory Warnsley of Morton, vice president for scholarship; Chasidy Smith of Noxapater, co-historian; Joshua Skinner of Union, public relations; Brittany Alexander of Little Rock, co-historian; Steven Cullen of Carthage, president; Joe Buntyn of Union, vice president for service; and Delynn Agee of Philadelphia, vice president for fellowship. Not pictured is Savannah Barksdale of Philadelphia, treasurer. ECCC faculty members Debbie Hammons and Sylvia Wright serve as Theta Xi advisers.

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UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL √

SPIRIT OF MORTON √

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF March 12/07

ECCC's Maintenance Department

This story was written for Profile 2007: Behind the Scenes.

They keep the campus clean, make repairs as needed to buildings and facilities, provide transportation for various college groups, and even find time to build props for musical and theater productions.

They are members of the maintenance staff at East Central Community College in Decatur, a dedicated group of 27 laborers who work behind the scenes to make sure "everything runs smoothly" on the 150-acre campus.

Although most of their work does go unnoticed — which suits physical plant director Mike Dearing just fine — the maintenance staff did receive one of the highest evaluations regarding the College's Homecoming 2006 observance from the administration, faculty and staff. Alumni who participated in the survey also gave high marks to the hard-working group.

Dearing, however, who is in his 14th year in leading the maintenance department, said it is his goal for the maintenance department "to never be noticed," as he explains:

"The only time someone actually notices maintenance is when something is not going right, something's broken or needs cleaning, the air conditioning or heat is not working properly, repairs are needed, etc. In other words, when things go wrong, everybody notices maintenance. So it's obviously a good thing not to be noticed!"

ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin echoed Dearing's remarks.

"It is the physical plant department that works tirelessly to make sure everything works. Unfortunately, the physical plant staff is not noticed until something goes wrong or doesn't work properly," Dr. Sutphin stated.

"But more times than not," he added, "everything works and we never recognize the effort of those who make it work. A large percentage of the employees of this institution are involved in 'making everything work' so that the other employees and the students can do what they came here to do. A big, hearty thanks is due to the men and women who make up the physical plant department for the work they do to keep the College running."

Dearing said his staff includes skilled and custodial labor and the grounds crew, all of whom are trained to perform other tasks as well.

"Everyone must be multi-tasked because everyone has more than one job to do," he said. "And everyone does a great job of working together to complete whatever task is required."

Dearing said the "general function" of the College's maintenance department is "to keep the school running smoothly." And his role as physical plant director is "to coordinate the projects by putting the right people in the right places to do the right jobs."

It's those "right people" that Dearing views as his major accomplishment as physical plant director.

"What I am most proud of — and I think this is a major accomplishment — is that I have hired a

SUBMITTED PHOTOS

BUILDING PROPS

Maintenance staff members are often called on for their expertise in such areas as building props for musical and theater products, as Artie Foreman illustrates above.

NIGHT WORK

Delois Houston, a member of the maintenance department's night crew, makes sure windows are clean in addition to her duties.

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March 12/07

keeps campus 'running smoothly'

A LITTLE TRIM

Among maintenance personnel responsible for properly maintaining campus grounds is Damion Russell, shown cutting grass near the Vincent Administration Building.

staff of people who could get a job anywhere because they are skilled in all different types of work. They are good craftsmen, good workers.... and I feel very fortunate to have assembled such a talented, hard-working and dedicate group of people," Dearing stated.

Such dedication of the maintenance staff was never more evident than following Hurricane Katrina.

After working long hours the week after the deadly storm in getting the EC campus ready to resume operation, several staff members volunteered their time and expertise in assisting Pear River Community College in Poplarville with its clean-up and restoration efforts.

"Everyone on the staff actually volunteered to go to Pearl River," Dearing recalled, "but obviously some people needed to stay here. But I was so proud that they were all so dedicated and wanted to help out a fellow community college, which was in dire need of assistance following the hurricane."

Dearing said working long hours is nothing unusual for the maintenance staff.

"If a water leak occurs on the weekend — even on New Year's Eve, which happened in 1999- maintenance staff members are called to fix the problem. If a power outage occurs on a Sunday morning, maintenance personnel respond to the situation. And when our athletic teams or other groups travel throughout the state and even to places like New York, Orlando, San Antonio or wherever, maintenance personnel are driving the vehicles needed for transportation. You can easily say that the maintenance staff is on call seven days a week, 24 hours a day...and we gladly respond to whatever is needed."

Not only are maintenance personnel required to work late hours and sometimes weekends, they are also not able to enjoy long holidays – such as Christmas, fall and spring breaks - as most College personnel. And, as Dearing stated, his crew realizes it is just the nature of the job.

"When joining the maintenance staff, everyone knows that they are going to be called on when everybody else is not on the job, and that is actually when a lot of maintenance work takes place So not getting all the holidays is something realized up front and everyone just accepts it, and I never have complaints about it," Dearing stated.

Although his crew does a great job performing its many tasks on a daily basis, Dearing said the challenge for the group is keeping up with demand, which includes completing major projects without disrupting school activities.

"Like other community colleges, we are challenged to meet the needs of our growing campus with limited funding. But I feel we are keeping pace with the amount of work needed to keep the college going," Dearing stated.

Recent additions to the campus include the completion of Phase II of the Eddie M. Smith Student Union, the East Mall renovation project and renovation of several classrooms on the College's South Campus.

Another recent addition is the new F. Clinton Russell Maintenance Complex, located on Hwy. 15. The facility, named for the former physical director, "has greatly enhanced" the maintenance department, according to Dearing. "Thanks to the new facility, delivery trucks no longer have to come to campus so it cuts down on traffic, and we now have adequate space for all our departments and College vehicles and even a break room, which everyone enjoys very much. It's just a great facility and plays a large part in helping us keep from being 'noticed,' if you know what I mean!" Dearing quipped.

Members of the College's maintenance department include Cindy Tucker, secretary; Wes Chandler, Daniel Bene', Adam Foreman, Alton Foreman, Artie Foreman, Anthony Glenn, Mickey Houston, Michael McWhirter, Sean Mowdy, Dewey Nelson, Damion Russell, Stuart Tune and James Stevens, members of the day shift; Martha Patrick, Lonnie Adams, Evenell Sanders and Silesa Wilson, day shift custodians; and Margie Gill, Billy Lucroy, Buffie Martin, Bernice McCune, Rosie Warnsley, Verstell Warnsley, Henry Wroten, Delois Houston and Grover Cox, night shift custodians.

WEEK OF March 12/07

Four coaches with ties to ECCC win

While the 2006-07 basketball season didn't contain a whole lot of highlights locally, four coaches with connections to East Central Community College brought home Mississippi High School Activities Association state championships this past weekend in Jackson.

Marty Stamper

Thomas Billups got the ball rolling as he led Jackson Lanier to yet another state crown. This year's victim was New Hope, 74-69 in Thursday's Class 4A finals. The Bulldogs are 37-3 going into this week's Grand Slam at Tupelo.

Billups, a native of Louisville, played football at EC under head coach Ken Pouncey. The win over New Hope was his 500th career victory and secured his eighth state championship. Lanier has won three straight state titles.

Wert Spiva Jr. got the second title as he led Coldwater to a 62-61 win over Coahoma County in the Class 2A girls' championship. The Lady Cougars improved to 30-5.

A native of Noxapater, Spiva was a football manager at EC under A.J. Kilpatrick.

Darrin Gray was the third member of the club as he led Scott Central's boys to a 60-59 overtime victory over S.V. Marshall of Tchula for the Class 2A crown Friday night. The Rebels improved to 27-11 with the win.

A native of Lake, Gray played basketball at EC.

Another former Warrior basketball player — Luther Riley — closed out the remarkable run by leading Jackson Provine to a 59-54 win over Jackson Forest Hill in the Class 5A finals Saturday night. The

state championships

Rams upped their record to 24-9 with the win.

It was the third state championship in his seven years at Provine for Riley, who prepped at South Leake.

In addition, another MHSAA high school coach with ties to EC has earned a big honor. Union native and Scott Central girls' basketball coach Chad Harrison has been selected to coach in the Mississippi High School All-Star Games.

Harrison earned his 200th career victory this year with a 55-23 win over Madison St. Joseph.

And former EC men's basketball coach Marty Cooper led the Itawamba Community College Indians to the Region 23 championship last week at Clinton and a berth in the NJCAA Division I Men's Championship at Hutchinson, Kan., March 20-24.

Itawamba, 26-4, will meet Northeastern Junior College of Sterling, Colo., in the opening round.

The Plainsmen are 31-1 after beating Casper 90-77 in the Region 9 finals. The NJC roster has five players listed as 6-foot-7 or taller.

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF March 12/07

Plans underway for ECCC's annual

Career and educational opportunities will be available for East Central Community College students when the College hosts its seventh annual Business, Education and Healthcare EXPO on Thursday, April 5 on the Decatur campus.

The public is also invited to attend the free event, which is scheduled from 9 to 11:30 a.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

Fifty-five vendors are already committed to participate in this year's EXPO, and officials are expecting to match or surpass the 65 exhibitors who reserved space in 2006.

"We are again very pleased with the response we have received from the various vendors and are looking forward to another successful EXPO," said committee chairman Chris Harris, who also serves as the College's Work-Based Learning Coordinator.

Harris added he is also pleased with the response from the student body in attending the event, which last year attracted about 500 students and numerous off-campus visitors.

"Our students have expressed how much they enjoy meeting the various vendors and learning more about the employment, educational and military opportunities available throughout Mississippi," Harris stated. "In addition, the vendors have indicated to us how much they have been pleased with our students. So this event is obviously a win-win situation for all concerned."

Although an exact total is not available, Harris said many East Central students received jobs as a result of last year's EXPO, and several made decisions on where they wanted to continue their education.

Vendors who have signed up for this year's event include AFLAC, Community Bank, Eaton Aerospace, ESCO Corporation, Hol-Mac Corp., Hurst Review Services, La-Z-Boy South, Jackson Police Department, Mississippi Dept. of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks, Primerica Financial Services, The Citizens Bank, The Taylor Group, Tower Loan Corpora-

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

March 12/07

business, education, healthcare EXPO

tion, Tyson Foods, Inc., USDA Forest Service, Working Solutions, Delta State University, Jackson State University, Marine Offshore, Millsaps College, Mississippi College, Mississippi State University, Mississippi University for Women, University Hospitals and Clinics, University of Mississippi, University of West Alabama, University of Southern Mississippi, Wesley College, William Carey College, Baptist Health Systems, Carthage Health Care Center, Central MS Medical Center, Central MS Residential Center, Deaconess Home Care, Hospice In His Hands, Jasper County Hospital and Nursing Home, Jeff Anderson Regional Hospital, Mississippi Care Center of Morton, MS Band of Choctaw Indians, MS State Hospital, Neshoba County General Nursing Home and Hospital, Newton Regional Hospital, Riley Memorial Hospital, River Oaks Health System, Rush Hush System, Scott Regional Hospital, South Central Regional Medical Center, St. Dominic Hospital, Sta-Home Health Agency, Weems Community Mental Health Center, Yuma Regional Medical Center, Air Force ROTC (Mississippi State University), Mississippi Army National Guard and United States Air Force.

Vendor space is available free of charge.

For more information contact Chris Harris, EXPO Committee Chairman, East Central Community College, P. O. Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 305. The email address is charris@eccc.edu.

WEEK OF March 17/07

ECCC

AMIS RECEIVES ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICAN HONOR!
Colby Amis (right) of Decatur, a standout member of the East Central Community College football team the past two seasons, has been named to the 2007 J.C. Grid-Wire Scholar/Athlete All-American Team. Amis, who was a wide receiver, quarterback and return specialist for the Warriors, is shown receiving the All-American recognition from head coach Terry Underwood. He was also named honorable mention All-State for the 2006 and 2005 campaigns and received ECCC academic and offensive team captain awards. A President's List Scholar, Amis was selected the College's HEADWAE (Higher Education Appreciation Day: Working Toward Academic Excellence) Student of the Year and was named to Who's Who Among Students in American Community and Junior Colleges. A product of Newton County High School, Amis is the son of George and Cheryl Amis of Decatur.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF March 19/07

Leake officials visit ECCC campus

Officials from Leake County were luncheon guests at the February meeting of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees. Officials and trustees from Leake County include, from left, Dr. Kimsey Cooper, Carthage, trustee; Sheila Johnson, tax-assessor/collector; Dot Merchant, chancery clerk; trustees Melanie Hartley, superintendent of education, and Janie Wilbanks, both of Carthage; Jeff Webb, county board attorney; and Ken Jones, supervisor; back, William E. Kitchings and Alan D. Rhea, trustees, both of Carthage; William Brock, supervisor; Freddie Terrell, county administrator; Joe Helton, Oliver Smith and Mike Sherman, supervisors; and, W.B. Jones, Walnut Grove, trustee.

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CARTHAGINIAN ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF March 19/07

The Newton Record Wednesday, March 21, 2007

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

MAKING PLANS FOR EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S SIXTH ANNUAL WARRIOR GOLF CLASSIC and the 2007 Homecoming celebration are, above,. Alumni Association officials (seated from left) Ann Burkes of Decatur, Newton County representative; Cheryl Comans of Cleveland, vice president; Christi Gregory, ECCC career-technical counselor; Florence Henley of Starkville, president; Dr. Lavinia Sparkman, ECCC vice president for instruction; Carla Glenn of Madison, out-of-district representative; and Stacey Hollingsworth, ECCC executive director for foundation and alumni relations; and (standing from left) Richard Boykin of Madden, Leake County representative; Chris Clark, ECCC faculty club president; Harvey Trapp of Newton, vice president; Bob Posey of Philadelphia, Neshoba County representative; James Vance of Meridian, out-of-district representative; Dr. Bob Tom Johnson of Forest, Scott County representative; Bill Lovett of Forest, past alumni association president; Joe Killens, ECCC vice president for student services; and Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, ECCC president. The Warrior Golf Classic will be held Friday, June 22, on the Oaks Course at the Dancing Rabbit Golf Club in Choctaw. Homecoming is set for Saturday, October 13. For more information contact the Office of Foundation and Alumni Relations, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 327. The email address is <mailto: sholling@eccc.edu>sholling@eccc.edu.

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

March 26/07

Campus improvements

Special to The Record

Completion of Phase II of the Eddie M. Smith Student Union and other campus improvements were among highlights of 2006 at East Central Community College in Decatur.

The 20,750 square-foot facility, which opened prior to the fall 2006 term, houses a new book store, fitness center, grill, game room, conference room, computer center and the Office of Admissions, Records and Research. It's part of the main structure, which was completed in 2000 and includes offices for Student Services personnel, financial aid, distance learning and the College nurse.

ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin said the campus addition further illustrates the College's ongoing commitment to serve students.

"It is one of our main goals to provide the very best facilities for our students and staff, and we feel the Student Union helps accomplish that goal. Everyone seems to enjoy the new facility - especially the student grill, which has become a popular spot for our students," said Dr. Sutphin.

the stands, installation of new fencing and warning track, a refurbishing and painting of the outfield fence, which now also includes sponsorship signs; and the addition of a Warrior "halo" design at home plate.

Renovations made at Warrior Stadium (now known as the Louise and Bill Bailey Stadium following the Decatur couple's recent $100,000 contribution), just in time for the 2006 football season included the installation of new bleachers and fencing on the visitors' side. Repairs were also made to the press box, a section of which was destroyed by the hurricane.

Lighting at both facilities had to be repaired or replaced due to the high winds.

Additional areas of the campus affected by Katrina and where repairs were completed by the end of 2005 or early 2006 included Ethridge Hall, which houses the ABE/GED lab and several classrooms on South Campus; the Vincent Administration Building; Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building; and Huff Auditorium. Minor roof damage occurred at six campus houses.

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UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

ESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

March 26/07

"And we hope to continue to make improvements to the campus as funds are available."

Also completed during the 2006 term were various repairs to the baseball and football facilities that were impacted by Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

New dugouts and a batting cage were constructed prior to the 2006 baseball season getting underway, and additional improvements were made at Chris Gay IV Memorial Field/Jamie Clark Memorial Stadium later in the year.

Those improvements include the addition of concrete and rocks under

Officials estimated that Katrina caused $600,000 in damage on the ECCC campus. FEMA provided $113,123.08 to purchase new bleachers on the football field and the College received a $186,000 grant from the Bush/Clinton Fund to help replace lost tuition. East Central also received an advance payment of $100,000 from the insurance underwriter to begin roof repairs on various campus buildings.

East Central experienced another successful year in 2006 as it served the needs of approximately 2,500 students enrolled in academic, technical

March 26/07

The Newton Record Wednesday, March 28, 2007

among ECCC highlights during 2006

SUBMITTED PHOTO

A welcomed addition to the ECCC campus last fall was the completion of Phase II of the Eddie M. Smith Student Union, which has become a popular spot for students and staff. Included in the new facility are a new bookstore, fitness center, game room and grill (as shown in the attached photos). The Office of Admissions, Records and Research, a computer lab and a conference room are also located in the new addition.

March 26/07

and career courses during the spring and fall semesters. The College also served approximately 12,000 students who took advantage of non-credit courses such as ABE/GED classes, and industrial training classes provided throughout the district by the ECCC Workforce Development Center.

As is the case each year, numerous students were recipients of various honors in the academic and athletic areas.

Those selected as NJCAA Academic All-Americans for 2006 include students on the Distinguished List (3.8 GPA or above) – Lindsey Walker (softball) of Little Rock, Clancy Cleveland (tennis) of Union and Tony Stanford (football), Jaimee Jones (soccer) and Heather Steele (basketball), all of Louisville, and students chosen Academic All-Americans (3.6 GPA or above) - Emily Massey (basketball) of Forest, Caleb Shepard (tennis) of Carthage and Micah Lanier (soccer) of Little Rock.

Six students were selected to the 2005-06 Hall of Fame, the highest honor presented at the College. Honorees included Joy Cavenaugh of Chunky, Kevin Gregory and Jaimee Jones, both of Louisville; Lori McMullan of Decatur, Kurt Nelson of Hickory and Casey Shackelford of Union.

In the annual Who's Who elections, Zack Kilpatrick of Philadelphia and Clancy Cleveland of Union were selected Mr. and Miss East Central Community College. Class favorites included Kim Cleveland of Union, Joy Cavenaugh of Chunky, Lee Blackburn of Lawrence, Megan Thomas of Forest, Amanda Dowell of Carthage, Kevin Gregory of Louisville, Vickie Smith of Collinsville, Jason Long of Carthage, Sherrell Brown of Forest, Jaimee Jones of Louisville, Christopher Boose of Hickory and Megan Jones of Rose Hill.

ECCC's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, received honors on the international and region levels of competition. At the international convention in Seattle, Washington, Theta Xi was presented an award for its "Raising the Coast" project in recognition of ECCC students' service to Hurricane Katrina victims on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Jaimee Jones of Louisville was also honored and received a Distinguished Chapter President Award for her service to the honor society. Honors the chapter received at the Mississippi/Louisiana Regional Convention included the Platinum Pinnacle Scholarship Award, which is presented to chapters whose membership increased by 20 percent from the previous semester. The award included a $250 gift certificate to help pay expenses at the international convention. Jones also received a Distinguished Chapter President Award and was inducted into the prestigious Order of the Golden Key.

See **ECCC**, Page 3D

March 28/07

ECCC

From Page 2D

In addition, Jones and Laura Foreman of Little Rock were named to the first and second teams, respectively, on the

All-Mississippi Academic Team, which recognizes scholarly achievements and leadership accomplishments of students enrolled in the states' community and junior colleges. The All-Mississippi Academic Team is sponsored by Phi Theta Kappa International, Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges, the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges, and The Clarion-Ledger.

Various honors were presented to members of the College's Theta Chi Chapter of Phi Beta Lambda, an organization for business and computer students, at the National PBL Conference held in Nashville. Award winners included Delynn Agee of Philadelphia, ninth place, American Enterprise;

DeLesa Nowell of Philadelphia, sixth, Community Service; Rebecca Rogers of Chunky, seventh, Partnership with Business; and Ken Webster of Philadelphia, second, Human Resource Management. In addition to winning four top 10 awards, Theta Chi was one of only two Mississippi Chapters to receive the Gold Seal Award in recognition of participation of various projects. PBL students qualify for the national competition by winning first or second place honors in their respective areas of competition on the state level.

honors in the same categories at the Mississippi SkillsUSA State Championship. Also winning awards at the state competition were Denise Brazzle of Philadelphia, first, Prepared Speech; Amanda Wilcher of Philadelphia, first, Job Skills Demonstration A; Kristy Woodruff of Louisville, LeSanders Lewis of Philadelphia, Veronda Fortune of Forest, Demetrius Keyes of Louin and Kristi Keene of Union, who finished second in Chapter Business Procedures "6"; Shelley McGuire and Nikki Mitchell, both of

Union, third, Occupational Health and Safety- Multiple; Michelle Carter of Newton, third, Action Skills; Danny Graham of Conehatta, first, Carpentry; Phillip Speed of Enterprise, first, CNC Milling; Tyler Hagan of Little Rock, third, Welding; Luke Howell of Union, first, Collision Repair; Delungus Chambers of Noxapater, third, Major Appliance Technology; and Brian Hillie of Newton, third, Cabinetmaking. SkillsUSA championships are held to recognize the achievements of career and technical students and to encourage them to strive for excellence and pride in their chosen professions.

Two members of the Wall O' Sound Marching Band received state recognition, as Claire Stinson and Derek Taylor, both of Meridian, were selected "first chair" clarinet and trombone, respectively, in the Mississippi Community College All-State Band, following auditions.

Four ECCC art students received honors at the annual Mississippi Community/Junior College Art Com-

Warrior basketball teams completed a successful 2005-06 campaign by participating in the MACJC and Region 23 tournaments en rouge to identical 17-10 records. Lady Warriors who received post-season honors included LaSaundra Harrison of Union, second team All-State and All-Star; Shannon Lloyd of West Lauderdale, first team All-State, All-Region23 and All-Star; and Valerie Harris of Lake, All-Region 23 Tournament Team. Warriors who received post-season awards included Johnny Hodge of Oauchita HS in Monroe, La., All-Region 23, first team All-State and

All-Star; and Sam Walton of Jackson Lanier, second team All-State. Billy Smith led the women's team and Steve Hampton coached the men's squad.

East Central's fast-pitch softball team experienced another winning season in 2006 by capturing a second-straight MACJC Central Division title and a record 41 wins and just six defeats. The Lady Diamond Warriors - who were ranked as high as fourth in the NJCAA poll - advanced to state and regional competitions only to fall in first-round action in each event.

Named to the All-Region 23 Team were Erica Hardin of Louisville, and Joy Cavenaugh, Dominique Mapp and Jennifer Smith, all of Newton County. Hardin, Mapp and Smith were also selected first team All-State, and Cavenaugh, Lindsey Smith of Neshoba Central and Christy Corley of Vidalia, La., received second-team All-State honors. Selected on the All-Division first team were Hardin, Jennifer Smith and Mapp, and

March 26, 0

Students who received honors in state competition included Michael Pettey of Philadelphia, first place, Annual Business Report; Rebecca Rogers of Chunky, first in Partnership with Business and Financial Categories; Jamaica Hernandez of Choctaw, first, American Enterprise and Who's Who in Phi Beta Lambda; Ken Webster of Philadelphia, first, Human Resource Management; Andy Johnson of Philadelphia, second, Statistical Analysis; Delynn Agee of Philadelphia, second, Hospitality Management; DeLesa Nowell of Philadelphia, second, Community Service; Nicole Pittman of Newton, second, JAVA Programming; and Jeffery Davis of Louisville, Who's Who in Phi Beta Lambda.

Also receiving national recognition were cosmetology students Amanda Leach of Hickory and Megan Miller of Louisville, who placed sixth in the Promotional Bulletin Board competition, and surgical technology student Melody McNall of Meridian, who placed third in the Job Skills Demonstration B contest, at the annual SkillsUSA Championship in Kansas City, Missouri.

The three students advanced to the national contest by winning first-place petition. Award winners included Blakeny Brown, a graduate of East Central High School and Marie Adams of Edinburg, who placed second and third, respectively, in the two-dimensional design category; James Files of Noxapater, honorable mention, two-dimensional design; and Omar Ducksworth of Bay Springs, honorable mention, printing.

In athletics, the Lady Warrior soccer team received a national honor following its first year of competition by being named the sport's 2005-06 NJCAA Academic Team of the Year for achieving a 3.5 grade point average.

Team members and their respective high schools included Chelsea Brown, Stone; Celeste Burt, Samantha Giambrone, Angela Ferguson and Jerrica Williamson, all of Neshoba Central; Joy Cavenaugh, Amanda Eaves and Maggie McDill, all of Newton County; Lacey Green, Carthage; Brittany Harper, Southeast Lauderdale; Jaimee Jones, Nanih Waiya; Heather Lewis and Danyell Taylor, both of East Central HS; Alisha Perry, Morton; and Megan Rosar, Camp Shelby Youth Challenge. Kenneth Thompson serves as head coach.

The Lady Warrior and Cavenaugh, Lindsey Smith, Corley and Loren Kennedy of Union were second team All-Division.

Several baseball players also received honors following the 2006 season, including Taylor Petty of Neshoba Central, first team All-State, and Luke Baugh of Morton, second team All-State.

Numerous College personnel were honored during the 2005-06 College term, including ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, who was appointed as a MACJC representative to the Mississippi Higher Education Assistance Corporation and was elected Vice President of the Board of the Directors for the East Central Mississippi Health Network, Inc.; Dr. Lavinia Sparkman, served as vice president and president-elect of the Chief Academic Officers/Deans Association of Mississippi; Ronald B. Westbrook, selected Small Business Center Director State Star for Mississippi; Lucille Wood, named a statewide honoree in the Love of Learning category for the BlueCross-BlueShield of Mississippi Ageless Heroes program and was recognized as the longest tenured faculty member serving in the state's community and junior college system with 52 years of serv-

March 26/0

ice; Joan Grimes, selected as a presenter at the 2006 NISOD Conference in Austin, Texas, which recognizes the nation's outstanding community and junior college instructors; Len Bobo, who received national certification from the Music Teachers National Association and had two of his hymn arrangements included in a national publication; Wayne Eason, elected treasurer of the Mississippi Educational Computing Association; Bruce Guraedy, selected to serve on the Central Region Board of Directors for the Mississippi Community/Junior College Art Instructors' Association and was a first-place award winner in the painting competition at the Philadelphia Fall Arts Festival; Maria McLeod, selected secretary for the College Public Relations Association of Mississippi (CPRAM); Lori Luke, who was inducted into the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society for Nursing; and Brenda Johnson, selected Phi Beta Lambda Adviser of the Year. Johnson and Jill Hammes, Gerald Jordan, Dr. Lisa McMillin and Carol Shackelford were chosen for Who's Who Among America's Teachers.

Three staff members retired following the 2005-06 College term, who included Lee Ann Scoggin, administrative assistant to the president; Gail Fulton math instructor; and Ron Davis, biology instructor, who lost his battle with cancer in April.

Association.

Fundraising efforts for a new entrance to the Warrior football stadium began last summer with a $25,000 contribution from La-Z-Boy South in Newton.

Homecoming 2006 was another successful event, as a packed Mabry Memorial Cafeteria was on hand as the ECCC Alumni Association recognized Judge Marcus Gordon of Union as Alumnus of the Year; Dr. Sandra Rivers Weeks of Commerce, Texas, as Alumna of the Year; Melvin E. Carpenter of Ocala, Fla., and Wilmer James of Brandon, new members of the College's Athletic Hall of Fame; Haywood Reeves of Forest, Academic Instructor of the Year; and LeAnn Shirley of Meridian. Reunion groups receiving special recognition included former students selected Mr. and Miss ECJC/ECCC and members of all classes ending in "6".

Members of the 2006 Homecoming Court were queen Maggie McDill of Decatur, maid of honor Casey Cooper of Forest, sophomore maids Brittany Barfield and Sarah James, both of Carthage, and Kim Cleveland of Union; and freshman maids Cortney Miller of Louisville, Jordan Taylor of Macon, and Dru Anderson and Carmen Ezell, both of Decatur. Escorts were Sam McDill of Decatur; Paul McMillin of Louisville, Roderic Hodge of Newton, Jay Jayroe of Philadelphia, Daniel Pilgrim of Edinburg, Tommy Harthcock of Newton, Jonathan Worell of Philadelphia, Mentral Ledbetter of Louisville, Kenyon Boatman, Neshoba Central; Kenny Ingram, Edgewater HS, Orlando; Jeremy Campbell and Cordae Campbell both of Meridian; Jamar Lawrence and David McCants, both of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County; George Lowe, Columbus; and Garry Lindsey, Laurel.

Soccer honors went to Brooke White of Florence, All-Region 23; Celeste Burt of Neshoba Central, first team All-State; Brittany Harper of Southeast Lauderdale and Maggie McDill of Newton County, both named honorable mention All-State; Nick Shanks of Philadelphia, first team All-State; and David Harmond of Stone HS and Zerell Gardner of Jackson Wingfield, both named honorable mention All-State.

East Central Community College students selected for Who's Who Among Students in American Community and Junior Colleges included Amanda Schmidt, Steven Cullen, Brittany Barfield, Shirley White and Sarah James, all of Carthage; Rebecca Rogers of Chunky; Rachel McElhenney, Glenda Cater, Ryan Loper, Morgan Stringer, Jessi McDaniel, Josh Graham, Colby Amis, Marie Hoy and Maggie McDill, all of Decatur; Justin Harrell of Edinburg, Kristina Moore of Enterprise, Casey Cooper, Shannon Davis, LaShondra Bradford, Lauren Estes, Megan Thomas, Jess Dilley, Mitch Rogers, Erik Alexander, Bobby Engle, Tabatha Ash Harrell, Raquel

March 26/07

East Central's ABE/GED Program was recognized for excellence at the 2006 Regional Conference of the Mississippi Association of Adult and Continuing Education (MAACE) held in Natchez. Gene Davis, who serves as the College's dean of adult and continuing education, was named Director of the

Year. Honors were also presented to ABE/GED instructor Jean Landers of Louisville, who was named Instructor of the Year; and the Neshoba County Literacy Council received the Friend of Education Award.

Several members of the College's Board of Trustees were honored for service at the annual state trustees' conference. Edsel Cliburn of Union was recognized for 15 years of service, and Delane Hudson of Louisville, Bill Thames of Newton, V. C. Manning of Philadelphia and William Kitchings of Carthage were honored for 10 years service.

The annual Bell South Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held in June was well attended as approximately 80 donors joined scholarship recipients for a luncheon program in the College cafeteria. Another successful Warrior Golf Classic was held last summer, as $6,700 was raised to fund scholarships for students residing in the College's five-county district. The one-day event is sponsored by the ECCC Alumni Kosciusko, Chauncey Hudson of Noxapater; and Blake Hedrick of Newton.

East Central's surgical technology program received national recognition for its students' success in taking the Program Assessment Exam (PAE), which is administered to students the final week of school prior to graduation. A certificate designating the health-related program as a member

of the "PAE Elite Twenty" was presented to instructors Kristie Pilgrim and LeAnn Shirley from the Accreditation Review Committee on Education in Surgical Technology. The ECCC program was rated 14th in the nation on the exam, higher than any surgical technology program in Mississippi.

Numerous members of the Warrior football and soccer team received post season honors following the 2006 campaign.

Those receiving football awards include Kerry Hudson of Philadelphia, first team All-State and MACJC All-Star; Allen Stewart of Holt HS in Tuscaloosa, second team All-State; Keith Spann of Clinton and Andrew Harrington of Kemper County, MACJC All-Star and honorable mention All-State; and honorable mention All-State selections Colby Amis of Newton County High School, Ivon Hickmon of Lake, Johnathan Pickens of Hollingsworth and Rebecca Myers all of Forest; Andrea Dubose and Roxanne Wilson, both of Hickory; Lee Dooley, Lauryn Laird and Elizabeth Jackson, all of Lake; Zoie Hardy and Lee Blackburn, both of Lawrence; Krista Chaney and Brittany Alexander, both of Little Rock; Joni Mitchell, Casey Hill, Paul McMillin and Caylee Sullivan, all of Louisville; Shelee' Hurtt and Brittney Harper, both of Meridian; Victor Warnsley, Tavarius Walker and Amanda Miles, all of Morton; Tyler Walker of Nanih Waiya, Clanton Blaylock, Caleb Page and Tony Gannon, all of Newton; Hannah Luke of Preston, Chasidy Smith of Noxapater, Chelsea Brown, of Perkinston, Delynn Agee, Donny Massey, Angela Boatner, Celeste Burt, Cassidy Byars, Andy Johnson, Lauren Thrash, Briana Stinson and Frank Dixon, all of Philadelphia; Kim Cleveland, Loren Kennedy, Joe Buntyn, Jordan Robinson, Joshua Skinner and Morgan Milling, all of Union; David Harmond of Wiggins, Carol Creel of

Trussville, Alabama; and Michael Presendieu of Kissimee, Florida.

For more information, contact East Central Community College the college "With You in Mind." Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222. The College website is www.eccc.edu.

These students currently serve as officers of the Native American Club at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured are (front row, from left) Geraldine Deason, reporter, of Carthage; Christina Thomas, secretary/treasurer, of Philadelphia; and Mary Yousef, vice chief, of Carthage; and (back row, from left) Sherman Billie, sir chief, of Sebastopol; and Delynn Agee, madam chief, of Philadelphia. Gloria Johnson and Gail Wood serve as club sponsors.

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES/ECCC, BUBBY JOHNSTON

CLUB

From Page 3

feathers, buckskin, bells and diamonds.

"As a tribe we have our own social dancers and we showcase traditional, cultural dancers," explained Christina Thomas, secretary and treasurer of the association.

The dances also honor those who have served time in war, a feat given the highest respect in the Choctaw culture.

Consolations, or gifts, were given to the dancers, and the head male and female dancers were honored during the ceremony.

The Pow Wow featured traditional Native American food including Indian tacos, which are made of fried bread. In accompanying American foods, cheeseburgers were also served.

Traditionally, Native Americans are known for eating staples like hominy, pork, venison, rabbit and squirrel. "We are very active in hunting and fishing," Shoemake said.

Choctaw foods, arts, sports and culture go on display each summer during the annual Choctaw Indian Fair held on the Choctaw Reservation near Philadelphia.

Each year when the fair rolls around, tribe members have one thing on their mind: stickball.

The traditional game is played by 30 members on each team who use two hickory sticks with cups attached at the end and a stickball made of leather.

The often-brutal game is "no laughing matter" among Native Americans, Thomas said.

Male and female players wear no padding or safety equipment and often suffer from bruises, cuts, sprains and broken bones. Players carry on with pride despite any injuries, however.

"It's not for money," said Thomas. "It's played for pride, for honor and for bragging rights for the community. The losing teams say 'there's always next year.'"

Fair week also brings the crowning of a new Choctaw Indian princess. Young women compete in a pageant where they are judged on eveningwear, ability to speak fluent Choctaw, interview and traditional clothing.

Each year, a new princess is chosen to serve as an ambassador of the tribe. The princess works closely with Chief Phillip Martin and attends most Choctaw functions.

The Native American Association meets once a week at ECCC and brainstorm on ideas for fund-raisers and community service.

As part of their effort to improve the college and the community, members helped clean a gazebo area near the college's library and also held a canned food drive to benefit the elderly.

Following the devastation of Hurricane Katrina, some association members traveled to the coast to help with clean up.

Association members thanked East Central for allowing them to host the Pow Wow, which they hope will become an annual event.

"If it wasn't for Joe Killens' help, it wouldn't have worked out," Shoemake said.

Though membership and participation in the association seems to be declining, some students are determined to keep the organization and the traditions of their culture alive.

They are most concerned about younger generations learning the Choctaw language.

"Less and less young people are using the language," said Shoemake. "I'm afraid that within 10 to 20 years, it may have diminished. We don't know what it's going to be like."

By encouraging other Native Americans to take an active role in the club, Thomas said she hopes to keep the ball running.

Club sponsors are Gail Wood and Gloria Johnson.

EC students named to All-Academic teams

WEEK OF March 26/07

East Central Community College sophomores Joshua B. Skinner of Union and Charles "Drew" Leach of Conehatta have been named to the 2007 All-Mississippi Academic Team, which recognizes scholarly achievements and leadership accomplishments of students enrolled in the state's two-year colleges.

Skinner

Skinner is among 15 students statewide named to the First Team and will receive a $1,000 scholarship to continue his education. Leach was chosen for the All-Academic Second Team, along with 39 other community college students.

Leach

Skinner, whose major is pre-medicine, has a 4.0 grade point average and plans to become a forensic scientist. He serves as public relations officer for Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society of the two-year college and co-sponsor of the All-Mississippi Academic Team program, and is a staff photographer for the Wo-He-Lo college yearbook and The Tom Tom student newspaper.

He is the recipient of the Citizens Bank of Philadephia Scholarship, the Frank Edwin and Nena Holt Leatherwood Award for Biological Science, an ACT Scholarship and a Presidential Scholarship.

Skinner is active in the college's Environmental Club and participated in an Invasive Species Cleanup project at Strawberry Plains nature preserve in Holly Springs in November 2006.

Leach is a veterinary medicine major who completed his studies at East Central Community College in December 2006 with a 4.0 grade point average before transferring to Mississippi State University. He previously served as pubic relations coordinator for Phi Theta Kappa and was a member of the marching and concert bands.

He was awarded a Star Student scholarship, band scholarship, mathematics contest scholarship, ACT scholarship and Presidential scholarship.

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF March 26/07

EC student escapes gunpoint kidnapping

By Jack Tannehill
Appeal Editor

What started as an average Sunday morning for 19-year Andrea Rash turned into a nightmare when she abducted at gun point from her East Central Community college dormitory.

Within just a few minutes after being abducted, Rash, a 2005 graduate of Union High School, managed her own escape, but the incident left a deep impression. "I'm a lot more nervous when I'm by myself now than I was," she said.

The incident occurred at about 11 a.m. when Rash returned to her room in Barber Hall prior to keeping the nursery during Sunday morning services at Clarke-Venable Baptist Church.

"I went to my dorm ..and I walked upstairs and I noticed there was a man sitting down in the lobby, watching tv," she said. "I smiled at him and went upstairs and got what I needed and came back down."

"When I got to the top of the stairs, he was walking around down in the lobby...right in front of the doors."

She said she went down the stairs and tried to go out and the man said "excuse me".

What happened next made Rash aware that something out of the ordinary was happening.

"I turned around, and he said 'I need to ask you something' and he put his arm around me," she said.

Cont. page 6, see Kidnapping...

Barber Hall on the ECCC campus

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

March 26/07

Kidnapping...Continued from page 1A

"And I said 'what?'...and tried to move...tried to get away."

"And then he looked at me funny and then looked down and...he had a gun poking into my ribs," she said.

It was at this point that Rash described herself as "getting very upset."

She said Guyse took her to the passenger door of his vehicle and put her cell phone in his pocket and told her to buckle her seat belt. "But, I couldn't. There wasn't a fastener and he looked and saw there wasn't a buckle to fasten it with. He looked and said, 'That's okay, I trust you' and patted me on the leg."

She said the vehicle wouldn't start right away, "It took it a couple of times to crank and I was thinking maybe I should try to run away right now. I didn't and I just sat there wondering what I was going to do," she recalled.

She said when they had driven only a 100 yards or so and were in front of the old Decatur High School gymnasium she saw there were other people around. "I realized it was Ricky Walker in a vehicle and I don't remember jumping out, but I did."

Rash pushed herself out of the slowly moving SUV and fell to the pavement, sustaining some bumps, bruises and abrasions.

"The next thing I know I (had) hit the ground running," she said.

Walker picked her up and took her to the police station, where a bulletin was issued for Guyse's arrest.

Guyse was apprehended north of Hickory on Hwy. 503 by Newton County Deputy Sheriff Jeff Clayton and charged with kidnapping and possession of a gun on school property.

His bond was denied on Monday in Justice Court.

Guyse, 21, of Conehatta, is a former ECCC student and currently attends the University of West Alabama.

Rash said she and Guyse had shared a class last year on the EC campus, but she did think she was specifically singled out. "I think he was just looking for anyone and I happened to be in the wrong place at the wrong time. I really don't think I was a target."

Rash is the daughter of Kevin and Angela Rash, 101 Long St., Union. Angela said Tuesday, "Granted what happened, happened. And, we are so thankful that Andrea is okay. But, the attention needs to be focused on better security. Something needs to be done and they are doing it."

She said Joe Allen Killens, Director of Student Affairs at EC had been most helpful. "Joe Allen has assured us that changes have already been made."

Killens declined to comment on what was being done to tighten security at the college Tuesday, referring all comments to President Phil Sutphin, who was out of town and couldn't be reached.

Pennington said the case will be handled by his department in conjunction with the sheriff's office.

"I'm just glad she jumped out," he said.

WEEK OF March 26 / 07

Suspect in kidnapping case has bond denied

By Brian Livingston
blivingston@themeridianstar.com

An East Central Community College student found herself with a black revolver stuck into her side late Sunday morning as she became the victim of an apparent kidnapping at a dorm on campus.

But her quick thinking and the reaction of a Newton County Sheriff's deputy ended the incident without anyone getting hurt.

"Well, she had a few bruises," said Newton County Sheriff Jackie Knight Monday afternoon. "But she's going to be all right. We're pretty happy about that."

Knight is also happy they have Roger Leon Guyse III in custody. Guyse, 21, of Conehatta, has been charged with kidnapping and possession of a firearm on school property. His bond request was denied Monday morning in Newton County Justice Court.

See **Kidnapping**
Page A2

Kidnapping

From page A1

"The judge felt the nature of the crime warranted the bond denial," Knight said.

At about 11:05 a.m., the student entered Barber Hall on the campus of the community college in Decatur. While walking through the front lobby, she noticed a man, later identified to be Guyse, there. After going to her room, she walked back through the lobby only to be allegedly approached by Guyse.

"He laid one hand on her shoulder and put the gun in her side," said Knight. "He then escorted her to his vehicle."

As Guyse slowly drove his red Ford Explorer off the campus, the victim jumped from the vehicle. Hitting the ground and rolling, the victim was quickly picked up by a motorist who was following Guyse's Explorer.

"The man behind them in the second vehicle worked on the campus quite a bit, recognized the girl and got her in his car," Knight explained. "A call was made to 911."

On his way north to Decatur on Highway 503, Newton County Deputy Jeff Clayton got the radio call. Seconds later he was passed by Guyse heading south. Clayton quickly turned around, stopped the vehicle and placed Guyse into custody.

"From the time the 911 call was made to the apprehension, it was seven minutes," said Knight. "I might have to buy Clayton a hamburger."

Guyse is currently being held in the Newton County Adult Detention Facility.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____
UNION APPEAL _____
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____
SPIRIT OF MORTON _____
OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____
NEWTON RECORD _____
MERIDIAN STAR ✓
CLARION-LEDGER _____
IMPACT _____

WEEK OF April 2/07

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC AC'CENTS TO PRESENT CAMPUS CONCERT MAY 3

he Ac'cents, East Central Community College's show choir, will present their spring campus concert at 7 p.m. on Thursday, May 3, in Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium on he Decatur campus. The public is invited and admission is free. The popular group will present such hits as "Bohemian Rhapsody," "Proud Mary," "Man, I Fee Like a Woman," ean on Me," "Too Much Heaven," and "Knock on Wood." Members include Hillary Rieger of Pearl, Maegan Johnston, Carmen Ezell, Noah Cook, Kyle Barrett and Dru Anderson, ll of Decatur; Savannah Barksdale and Matt Jones (technician), both of Philadelphia; Jordan Gibbs of Morton, Jessica Cager of Union, Anse Rigby and Ryan Reeves, both of For-est; Anthony Engram of Conehatta and Jonathan Crabtree (technician) of Vicksburg. Vicki Blaylock serves as director. For more information or to schedule a performance, con-act Blaylock at 601-635-2111, ext. 225, or toll free 1-877-462-3222, ext. 225. Ac'cents members include (front row, from left) Hillary Rieger of Pearl, Maegan Johnston of Decatur, Savannah Barksdale of Philadelphia and Carmen Ezell of Decatur; (second row, from left) Jordan Gibbs of Morton, Jessica Cager of Union, Anse Rigby of Forest, Noah Cook and Dru Anderson, both of Decatur; and Anthony Engram of Conehatta; and (back row, from left) Kyle Barrett of Decatur, Jonathan Crabtree of Vicksburg (technician), Matt ones of Philadelphia (technician) and Ryan Reeves of Forest. Vicki Blaylock serves as director.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF April 2/07

ECCC Class of '64 endows scholarship

Special to the Record

Members of the 1964 graduating class of East Central Community College in Decatur have endowed a scholarship for qualified sophomores to continue their education at the two-year institution.

Class members established the scholarship at their 40th class reunion in October 2004, and recently endowed the award, which requires a minimum $10,000.

The scholarship will be presented to a sophomore who has maintained a 3.0 grade point average and demonstrates a need for financial assistance. The ECCC Scholarship Committee will select the award winner.

For more information regarding the Class of 1964 Endowed Scholarship contact ECCC Student Service, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 375. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu.

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

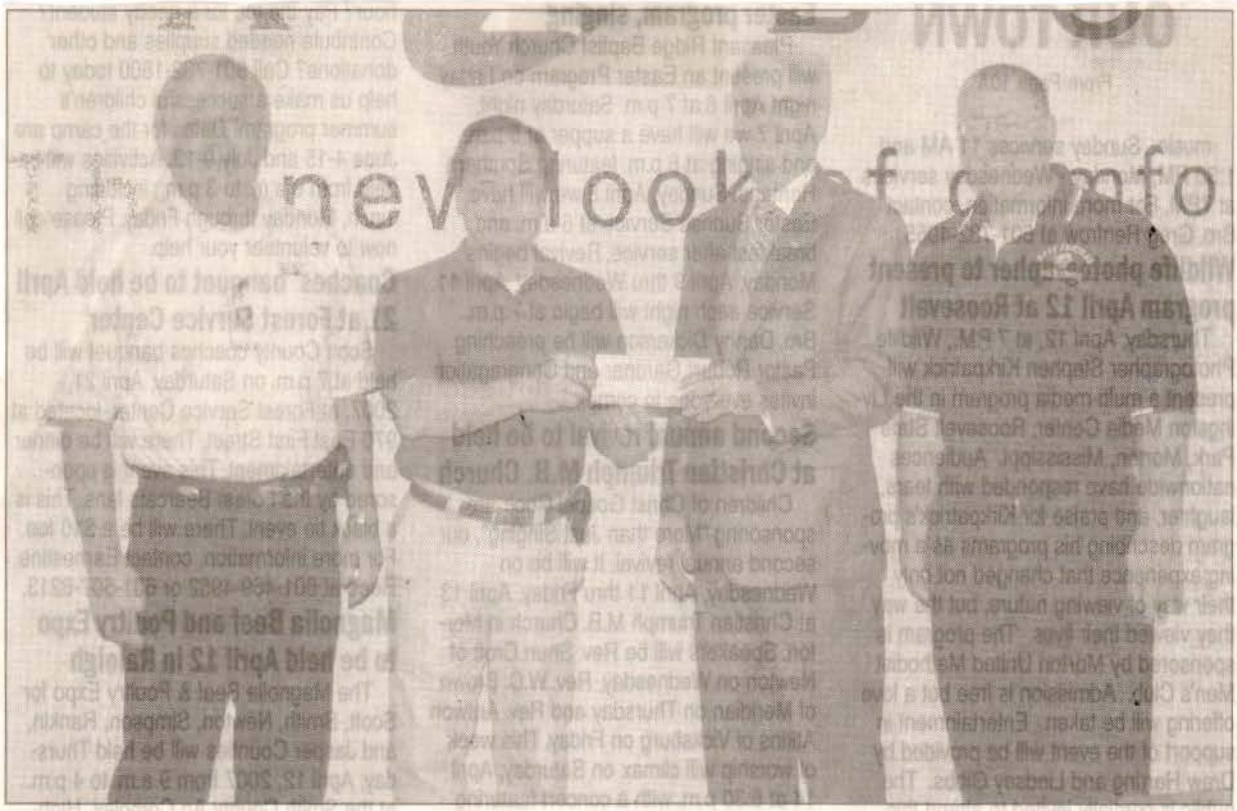
NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF April 2/07



ECCC PHOTO

LA-Z-BOY MAKES ECCC CONTRIBUTION

Officials with La-Z-Boy South in Newton recently presented checks totaling $27,000 designated for athletics and academics at East Central Community College in Decatur. Chuck Grogan (second from left), company Vice President/General Manager, and general manager, is shown making the presentation to ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin. Also pictured are Terry Underwood (right), ECCC athletic director/head football coach, and Tom Keith (left), La-Z-Boy Human Resource Manager. Grogan said $25,000 is earmarked for Warrior athletics and $2,000 funds the La-Z-Boy Scholarship, which is awarded annually to at least two students residing in the College's five-country district. Funds are provided by the La-Z-Boy South Foundation.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES √

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF April 2/07

ECCC

WOOD MAKES ANNUAL ECCC DONATION: Jim Wood (right) of Louisville recently made his annual contribution to the East Central Community College golf team and is shown presenting some of the 25 dozen practice golf balls that he collected to Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for Foundation and Alumni Relations. Wood, who also made a monetary contribution to the team, is a member of the ECCC Class of 1949 and will be honored during Homecoming 2007 along with other members of the 1947 Warrior football team. He was inducted into the College's Athletic Hall of Fame in 1995. His sister is longtime ECCC faculty member and former coach Lucille Wood, who in 1986 became the second member of the College's Athletic Hall of Fame.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓ _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF April 2/07

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 2007

NEWS & RECORDS

ECCC PHOTOS

RAYTHEON, MAXIM REPRESENTATIVES SPEAK TO ECCC STUDENTS

Charles Longmire (left) of Raytheon Systems, Inc., in Forest and Glenn Harrison of Maxim Manufacturing in Sebastopol (right) discuss career opportunities and other matters related to employment while recently addressing electronic technology students at East Central Community College in Decatur. Longmire and Harrison were among representatives of area industries and businesses who visited with career-technical students during the annual "Industry in the Classroom" activity held in recognition of Career-Technical Education Month.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES √

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

April 2/07

WEEK OF April 9/07

JOUR

Sophomore Cheerleaders recognized

(EC PHOTO)

Sophomore cheerleaders for East Central Community College basketball squads were honored during a ceremony held at the final home games for 2006-07 on February 19. From left are Loren Kennedy, Union; Kyle Jones, Nanih Waiya; Susanna Pace, Neshoba Central; Neal Hall, Neshoba Central; Kristina Moore, Enterprise; Grant McDaniel, Neshoba Central; and Brittany Barfield, Carthage, who were joined by family members for the special occasion. Huellen Nutt is completing her first year as sponsor.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF April 9/07

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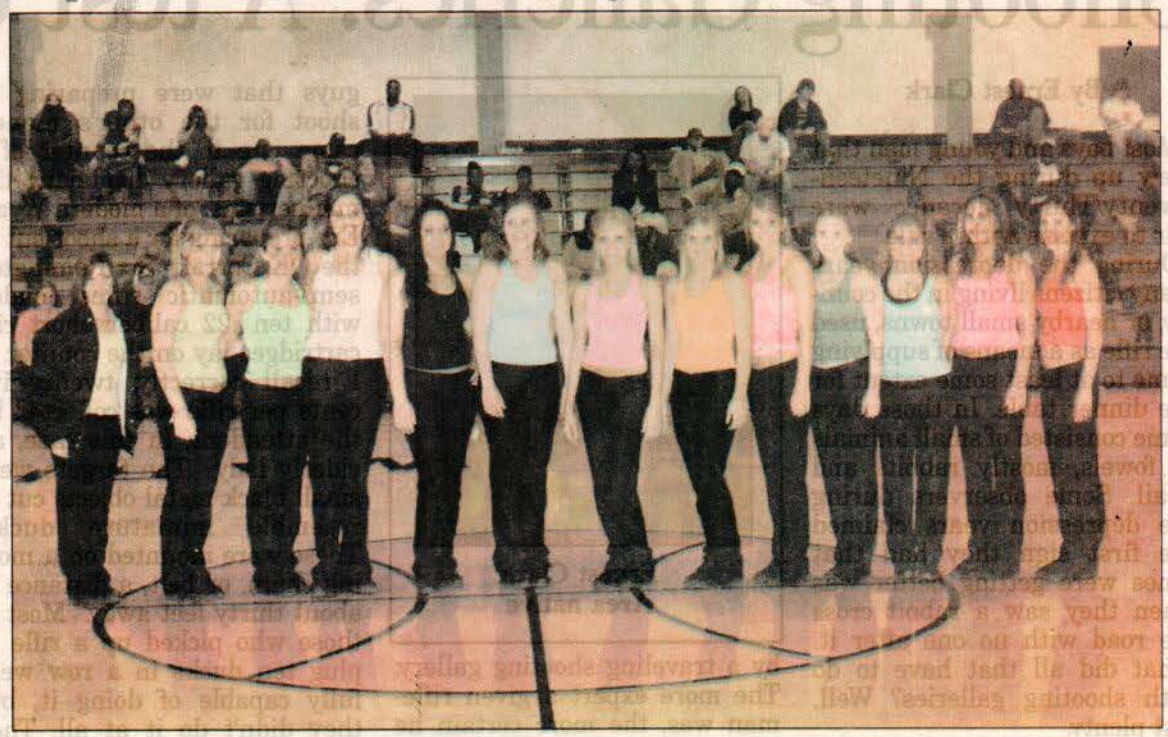
Sophomore Centralettes recognized



(EC PHOTO)

Sophomore members of the Centralettes, the dance line for the East Central Community College Wall O' Sound Marching Band, were honored during a ceremony held at the final home basketball games for 2006-07 on February 19. The group performs during halftime activities. From left are Kristen Thomas, Union; Lauren McDonald, Paige Randolph and Elizabeth Jackson, all of Newton; Lydia Adkins, Union; Rachel McElhenney, Decatur; Bethany Sharp, Sebastopol; and Casey Cooper, Forest; Caylee Sullivan, Louisville; Ali Burton, Decatur; Morgan Milling, Union; Sally Jones, Chunky; and Krisha Dickens, Hickory. Nicole Hillman is completing her first year as choreographer/coordinator.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL √

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF April 9/07

ECCC PHOTO

DISCUSS CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AT ECCC

Representatives of area businesses and industries were recent special guests on the East Central Community College campus in Decatur to participate in the annual "Industry in the Classroom" event. Sponsored by the College's career-technical division, the activity is held in recognition of Career-Technical Education Month. Career opportunities and other matters related to employment were among items presented to ECCC's career and technical students. Participants and the programs they addressed included (first row, from left) Dwight Vowell of Unipres Southeast in Forest, business technology; Janice Jacobs, surgical technology; Tanisha Welch, electronic technology; and Durwin Lewis, automotive mechanics; (second row, from left) Bradley Heard, collision repair technology; Bruce Wesson, electronic technology; Willie Macon, childcare technology; Glenn Harrison of Maxim Manufacturing in Sebastopol, drafting and design technology; and John Lambeth, electronic technology; and (back row, from left) Charles Longmire of Raytheon Systems, Inc. in Forest, electronic technology; and ECCC officials Wayne Eason and Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, president.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF April 9/07

ECCC PHOTO

COLLEGIANS TO PRESENT APRIL 16 CONCERT

The Collegians, East Central Community College's rock-n-roll band, will present their spring campus concert Monday, April 16, at 8 p.m. in Huff Auditorium. The popular group will perform hits by Staind, Avril Lavigne, The Fray and many others. Special guest performer will be ECCC alumnus Pat Kirby from Newton. Admission is free. Collegian members include (front row, from left) technicians Jordan Gibbs of Morton and Dustin Gibbs of Conehatta; (second row, from left) vocalists Jessie Cochran of Decatur, Kelly Kight of Louisville, Aly Burton of Decatur and Jordan Taylor of Macon; and technicians Josh Talbert of Newton, Andrew Ladd of Philadelphia and Anthony Williams and Whitney Lott, both of Decatur; (third row, kneeling from left) vocalists Colby Amis of Decatur and Matt Jones of Philadelphia; and (top row, from left) wind and rhythm section members Brent Cumberland of Philadelphia, Ben Ingram of Carthage, Doug Kelley of Sebastopol and Drew Gillis of Decatur; Clanton Blaylock of Newton, Hillary Rieger of Pearl, Kimberly Bassett of Forest; and Caleb Frink and Kyle Barrett, both of Decatur. Thomas W. Carson serves as director and also plays guitar in the group.

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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WEEK OF 4-16-07

East Central Community College

BOND RECEIVES SPECIAL RECOGNITION!

Jacob Bond (left), a third-grader at Newton County Academy, was recently honored for improving his grades over the previous nine-week period. The special recognition is part of the BUG (Bringing Up Grades)-Plus project, sponsored by the Greater Decatur Chamber of Commerce. Each award winner receives a BUG-Plus T-shirt and has the opportunity to win a new computer at an end-of-the-year picnic held on the East Central Community College campus in Decatur. Also pictured is ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, former Chamber president currently serving as education committee chairman, who made the presentation.

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

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WEEK OF 4-16-07

Vincent, Wood, Brackeen selected

Three East Central Community College alumni who made their marks in athletics are included in the first class of outstanding athletes and coaches selected for induction into the Mississippi Community/ Junior College Sports Hall of Fame.

Arno Vincent, Lucille Wood and the late Denver Brackeen will be recognized with other honorees during an induction banquet scheduled at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 24, 2007, on the Copiah-Lincoln Community College campus in Wesson. A reception at 6:30 p.m. officially begins the activities, which will be held in the Thames Conference Center.

During the banquet, a medallion and a glass desk piece will be presented to each honoree. In addition, the names of all inductees will be displayed on a large plaque for display in the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges' (SBCJC) office in Jackson.

Arno Vincent

Vincent, a 1937 ECCC graduate, was an All-State selection in football and basketball as a member of the 1935-36 and 1936-37 squads. He continued his athletic career at the University of Southern Mississippi, serving as team captain in football and basketball.

He later returned to ECCC to coach the 1947-49 football squads, and led the Warrior basketball teams from 1947-53. His 1952-53 basketball squad captured Region 7 and State championships and finished fourth in the NJCAA Tournament.

Vincent served as ECCC president from 1953-62 and is a former assistant superintendent for Meridian Public Schools.

He is a member of the ECCC Athletic Hall of Fame and was inducted into the Football Hall of Fame and Alumni Hall of Fame at USM. He was selected ECCC's Alumnus of the Year in 1973 and the College's administration building was named in his honor in 1999.

A military veteran, Vincent served in the U.S. Navy from 1942-46 with the Pacific Fleet.

He and his wife, the former Winifred McElhenney, reside in Petal. He has two daughters, Pamela Vincent and Daphne Vincent Lancaster. His first wife, the former Ruth Carr of Winston County, is deceased.

Lucille Wood

Wood, a 1951 ECCC graduate, lettered in basketball and tennis while a member of the 1949-50 and 1950-51 teams.

Since varsity sports were not available for women on the senior college level, Wood participated in intramural sports at the University of Southern Mississippi from 1951-53. She received a bachelor's degree in physical education and a master's in health, physical education and recreation from USM.

Wood later returned to ECCC and coached basketball Club Teams from 1958-74; women's basketball, 1974-85; men's and women's tennis, 1958-76; and volleyball, 1968-71. She led four of her women's basketball teams to state titles and several division championships. She also captured a state title in volleyball and five of her tennis players won individual state championships.

Wood is also recognized as a pioneer in women's athletics and worked for the implementation of the Title IX ruling for colleges in Mississippi.

She has received numerous honors throughout her career. She was chosen ECCC Alumna of the Year in 1965; MACJC Coach of the Year, 1979; and was named to the ECCC Athletic Hall of Fame in 1986. The College's physical education building was named for her and Denver Brackeen in 1988. She served as Region 23 Director of Athletics from 1987-1997 and was one of three recipients of the NJCAA Service Award.

Wood was chosen HEADWAE (Higher Education Appreciation Day; Working Toward Academic Excellence) Instructor of the Year in 1990; Mississippi Humanities Council Instructor of the Year, 2003; and Mississippi Women's Conference "Power of One" Award winner in 2003.

She was inducted into the NJCAA Women's Basketball Coaches Hall of Fame in 2004 and the same year received a BlueCross BlueShield Ageless Hero Award in the "Love of Learning" category.

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to MC/JC Sports HoF

The Mississippi House of Representatives recognized Miss Wood for her 53 years of service in the state's community and junior college system by adopting a resolution in her honor during the 2007 session.

Wood teaches health, first aid, physical education, recreational leadership, and fitness and conditioning classes at ECCC where she also serves as Chairman of the Division of Social Science, Business and Education.

Denver Brackeen

Brackeen, a member of the ECCC Class of 1953, was a standout member of the 1949-1950 and 1952-53 basketball squads, earning All-State honors both seasons and NJCAA First Team All-American status in 1953.

He led the Warriors to state and regional championships and a fourth place finish in the NJCAA Men's Basketball Tournament during the 1952-53 season. While participating in the national tournament, Brackeen scored a record 51 points in one contest and was named the NJCAA Most Valuable Player.

Brackeen continued his basketball career at the University of Mississippi, where he received All-American honors by the Helms Athletic Foundation and was selected most valuable player in the Southeastern Conference. He was twice named to All-SEC teams and was chosen by Look Magazine as the most valuable player in District V, which consisted of nine southern states.

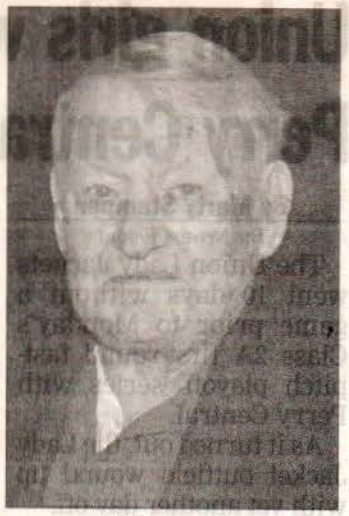
He was drafted by the New York Knicks professional basketball team but soon returned to ECCC to begin a 28-year career serving in various capacities including coach, guidance counselor, admissions director and dean of students.

Brackeen led Warrior basketball teams from 1955 to 1963, compiling a record of 137 wins and 52 losses. His most successful season was his last at the Warrior helm. The 1962-63 team finished 22-3 and advanced to the state tournament semi-finals. Members of Brackeen's basketball teams successfully led efforts recently to establish a scholarship in his honor at ECCC.

Brackeen, who in 1985 was chosen the first member of the ECCC Athletic Hall of Fame, was also inducted into the NJCAA Men's Basketball Hall of Fame, Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame and the University of Mississippi Athletic Hall of Fame. He was also chosen a Chik-fil-A SEC Basketball Legend of the Year.

He was selected ECCC Alumnus of the Year in 1982 and the College's physical education building was named for him and Lucille Wood in 1988.

Brackeen also had a distinguished career in Mississippi National Guard. He served as Mississippi's Adjutant General during Desert Storm and retired from military service in 1992 with the rank of major general.



Vincent

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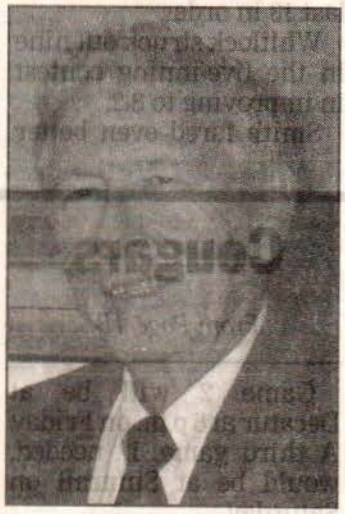

Brackeen

WEEK OF 4-16-07

technology / gifts

BAILEYS PROVIDE FUNDING FOR ECCC STADIUM PROJECT: Bill Bailey and his wife Louise (shown at left) recently contributed $100,000 to fund a new entrance to the Warrior football stadium at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Baileys, owners of the Decatur Telephone Company, are shown making the check presentation to Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, ECCC president; Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for Foundation and Alumni Relations; and Terry Underwood, athletic director/head football coach. Almost $180,000 has been raised for the project, expected to be completed for the 2007 football season. The new entrance will include a concession stand, restrooms and 180 engraved donor bricks, purchased for $100 each. Additional improvements are also planned for the stadium, now known as the Bill and Louise Bailey Stadium in honor of the Decatur couple's generous donation.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF April 16/07

English instructor Tanya Boler (left) and sophomore Angela Boatner represented East Central Community College at the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration. Both were honored as William Winter Scholars at the annual conference, which recognizes outstanding faculty members and students in the field of humanities.
(EC Photo)

EC's Boler, Boatner chosen William Winter Scholars

East Central Community College English instructor Tanya Boler of Conehatta and sophomore Angela Boatner of Philadelphia were recently selected 2007 William Winter Scholars and were recognized with other honorees at the 18th Annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

Boler, who joined the ECCC staff in 2002, holds an associate's degree from ECCC and received bachelor and master's degrees from Mississippi State University.

Boatner, a 34-year-old nontraditional student, has maintained a perfect 4.0 grade point average while majoring in music with vocal emphasis. She is also a member of the Concert and Chamber choirs and was tapped for membership in Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges.

William Winter Scholars are chosen by their respective institutions as the most outstanding faculty members, administrators and students in the field of humanities.

Alumni Scholarships / Honoring

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF April 16/07

Morton Students Attend ECCC Senior Days

These Morton High School seniors were among the approximately 800 students who attended Senior Day activities held recently at East Central Community College in Decatur. From left are Kevin Gordon, Bethany Latham, Dillon Heggins, Lindsey Lockert, Jana Johnson and Jim Craig, who are shown with academic counselor/recruiter Michael Alexander. The special visitors received information on the College's academic, technical and career programs of study and learned about the various campus organizations during activities held in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. Entertainment for the campus guests was provided by several ECCC musical groups in Huff Auditorium. A complimentary lunch was also provided. Senior Days are held on two separate days to accommodate the large crowd. Students from the College's five-county district, which includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties, are invited to attend the annual event. (EC Photo)

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

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WEEK OF April 16/07

Morton Seniors Visit ECCC Campus

Morton High School seniors (photo on right) Giseelle Contreras, Jenifer Miranda, Gianella Araujo and Maria Rodriguez were among the approximately 800 students who attended Senior Days held recently at East Central Community College in Decatur. The special visitors received information on the College's academic, technical and career programs of study and learned about the various campus organizations during activities in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. Entertainment for the campus guests was provided by several ECCC musical groups. A complimentary lunch was also provided. Senior Days are held over a two-day period to accommodate the large crowd. Students from the College's five-county district, which includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties, are invited to attend the annual event. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

April 16/07

Pictured (from left) Giseelle Contreras, Jenifer Miranda, Gianella Araujo and Maria Rodriguez

WEEK OF April 16/07

ECCC senior days draws local students

Area high school seniors are shown registering during one of two Senior Day events held recently on the East Central Community College campus in Decatur. The special visitors received information on the College's academic, technical and career programs of study and learned about the various campus organizations during activities held in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. Entertainment for the campus guests was provided by several ECCC musical groups in Huff Auditorium. A complimentary lunch was also provided. Approximately 800 seniors representing high schools in Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties attended the annual event.

(EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF 4/1/23/07

ECCC Expo Attracts Large Crowd

East Central Community College's Business, Education and Healthcare Expo once again attracted a large crowd, as approximately 450 students and campus guests visited the 70-plus vendors who displayed their products and services. The seventh annual event was held in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus. Although exact totals are not available, numerous students take advantage of career opportunities provided each year as a result of the Expo, according to Chris Harris, committee chairman who also serves as work-based learning coordinator. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF April 23/27

East Central to hold annual fine arts festival April 26

Special to The Record

East Central Community College in Decatur will present its Annual Spring Fine Arts Festival at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 26, in the Ovid S. Vickers Fine Arts Center. There is no charge for admission and refreshments will be served.

The ECCC concert choir will present a program titled "The Sounds of Music," which featurees various styles of music, including historical, spiritual, nineteenth century, folk and contemporary songs. Dr. Chris Jenkins serves as choral director. Len Bobo serves as accompanist.

There will also be an exhibit displaying works by East Central art and ceramic students. Bruce Guraedy, Chairman of the Division of Fine Arts, serves as art and ceramics instructor.

For more information contact Guraedy at 601-635-2111, ext. 229, or toll free 1-877-462-3222, ext. 229. The email address is bguraedy@eccc.edu.

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF April 23/07

—ECCC contest winners

These East Central Community College students won various honors at the 2007 State Leadership and Skills Conference for SkillsUSA held April 11-12 at Hinds Community College. The ECCC group came away with eight first-place awards, 13 second-place awards and five third-place honors. The first place winners will represent the College at the National Leadership and Skills Conference scheduled June 23-29 in Kansas City, Missouri. Award winners include (first row, from left) Dedra Hobbs of Laurel, second place, Chapter Business Procedures; LaTrycia Brown of Meridian, second, Opening and Closing Procedures; Jessica Griffin of Philadelphia, second, Chapter Business Procedures; and Shekeisha Coleman of Louisville, second, Chapter Business Procedures; (second row, from left) Josh Warren of Meridian, third, Related Technical Math; Charles Hayes of Forest, third, Industrial Motor Controls; Trey Whitehead of Meridian, third, Heating and Air Conditioning; Luke Howell, first, Collision Repair, and Mitchell Roberts, first, Major Appliance Repair, both of Union; (third row, from left) Niki Torrence of Morton; Job Skills Demonstration B; Reshelle Williams of Lake, first, Occupational Health and Safety; Brooke Savell of Philadelphia, first, Occupational Health and Safety; James Wall of Newton, third, CNC Milling; Kerri Withers of Union, second, Chapter Business Procedures; and James Hattaway of Decatur, second, Opening and Closing Ceremonies; (fourth row, from left) Sharon Griffin of Philadelphia, second, Opening and Closing Ceremonies; Kendrah Bradford of Forest, second, Chapter Business Procedures; Jessica Yarbrough of Decatur, first, Occupational Health and Safety; Nathan Sharpe of Forest, third, Job Skills Demonstration B; Latasha Hall of Decatur, second, Chapter Business Procedures; Arthur Breakfield of Philadelphia, third, Carpentry; and Sha Parker of Little Rock, first, Promotional Bulletin Board; and (fifth row, from left) April Boyd of Natchez, Jennifer Smith of Hickory, Brooke Harrell of Morton and Aimee Baugh of Kosciusko, who placed second in Opening and Closing Ceremonies.

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NEWTON RECORD _____

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IMPACT _____

WEEK OF April 23/07

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

www.winstoncountyjournal.com

Seniors receive info about ECCC Gospel Choir

(EC PHOTO)

Derrick Murrell (left) and Lachaneka Robertson, seniors at Newton and Louisville high schools, respectively, receive information about East Central Community College's Gospel Choir program from sponsor Brenda K. Johnson during the recent Senior Days held on the Decatur campus. Approximately 800 students representing schools in ECCC's district, which includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties, attended the annual event.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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WEEK OF April 23/07

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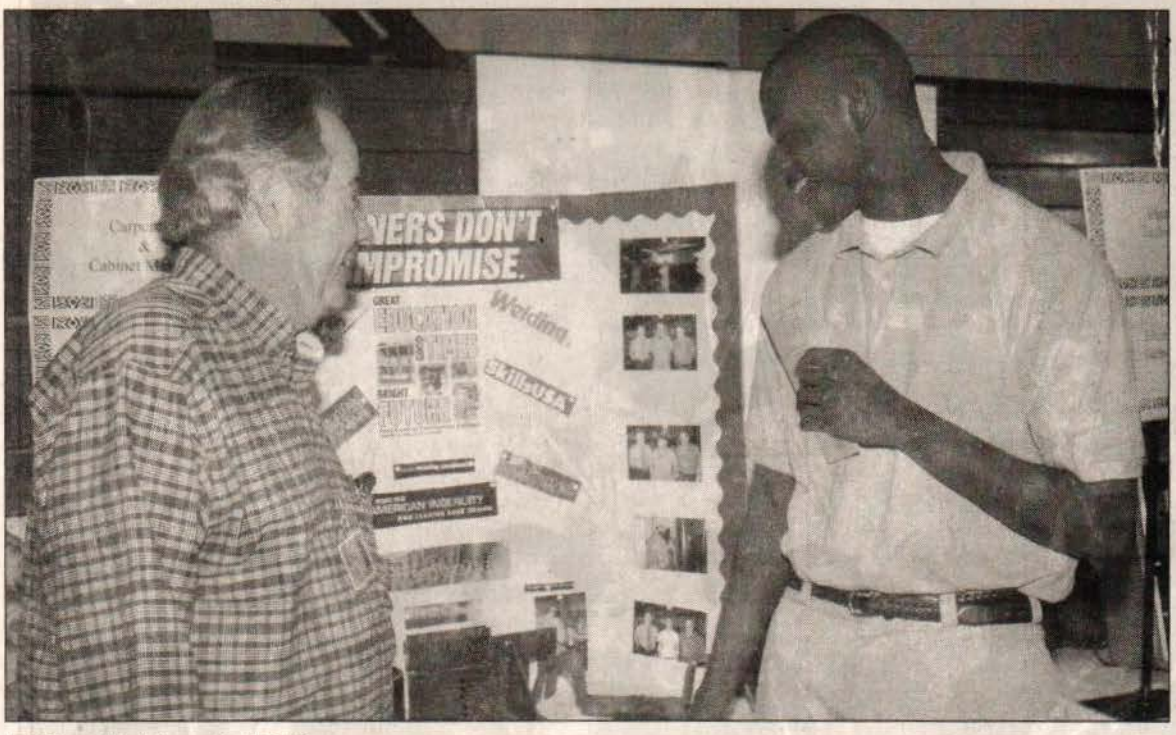
ECCC Welding interest



Talking Welding At ECCC

Stephen Thames (right), a Louisville High School senior, receives information on East Central Community College's welding program from instructor Gerald Jordan during the recent Senior Days on the Decatur campus. During the annual event, which is held on two separate days to accommodate the large crowd, the special guests have an opportunity to receive information about the College's academic, technical and career programs of study and learn about campus organizations by visiting the various display booths set up in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. Entertainment is provided by several ECCC musical groups in Huff Auditorium. A complimentary lunch is also served. Approximately 800 students representing schools in ECCC's district, which includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties, attended this year's event. (EC Photo)

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF April 23/07

WINSTON JOUR

ECCC Senior days

Discuss ECCC Business Technology Program

Christy Ferguson (left), business technology instructor at East Central Community College in Decatur, provides course information to Louisville High School seniors (second from left) Victoria Toms, Lauren Thornton and Brandi Tollett during the recent Senior Days held on the Decatur campus. During the annual event, which is held on two separate days to accommodate the large crowd, the special guests have an opportunity to receive information about the College's academic, technical and career programs of study and learn about campus organizations by visiting the various display booths set up in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. Entertainment is provided by several ECCC musical groups in Huff Auditorium. Approximately 800 students representing schools in ECCC's district, which includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties, attended the annual event. (EC Photo)

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF April 23/07

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

ANDERSON LEARNS ABOUT ECCC PROGRAM: Dennis Anderson (left), a Newton County High School senior, receives information about East Central Community College's Industrial Maintenance Trades Technology program from instructor Robert Kilpatrick during the annual Senior Days held recently on the Decatur campus. Approximately 800 seniors representing high schools in Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties attended the event, held on two separate days to accommodate the large crowd. Information about the College's academic, technical and career programs of study and the various campus organizations was available during activities held in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. Entertainment for the campus guests was provided by several ECCC musical groups. A complimentary lunch was also provided.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

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Beulah Hubbard
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April 27, 1977

Neshoba County residents
ll have an opportunity to
te yes or no Tuesday, May
on a 2,750,000 bond issue.

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APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF April 23/07

SING OUT: East Central Community College student Jordan Taylor leads the Collegians through a tune at a packed Huff Auditorium on April 16. The 15-member group, led by Tom Carson, ran through a high energy set of current radio hits by Sugarland and Hinder, as well as classics by the Ohio Players and others.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓ _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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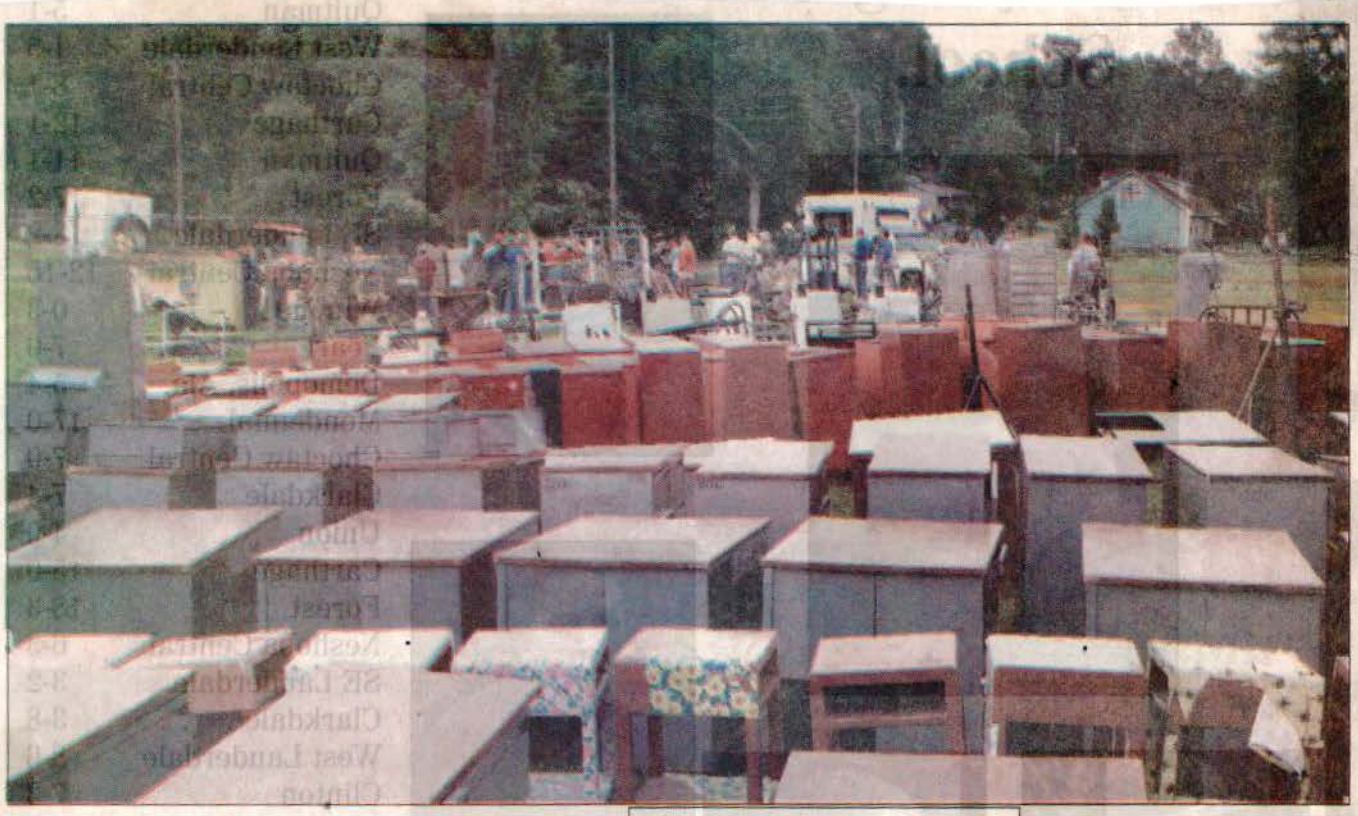
WEEK OF 4-30-07



Attendance may have been down slightly, but the bidding was brisk Saturday morning at a surplus auction held on the East Central Community College Campus. Above: as the day was getting started about 50 metal desks were lined up like tombstones awaiting Auctioneer Corbert Hollingsworth's gavel. Harry Holt of Union, right, is always on the lookout for saws, drills and other machines; but, he said this table saw just required a little more work than he was willing to invest. Mickey Vance, VP of EC's Business Operations, said the three-hour sale netted, "I think about $12,150." He said the sale, held every two or three years, was good way for the school to get some value out of some things. "If we're selling it, we pretty much have used all the good out it," he said. He said every items on the grounds sold, including close to a hundred old computer monitors, CPU's and keyboards. "I'm not sure what they get out of those, but there is, evidently, some salvage value."

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WEEK OF April 30/07

ECCC Sends Condolences to Virginia Tech

Keith Brown (from left), Marty Ann Bergin and Jason Hurdle, all of Forest, were among East Central Community College students and staff members who signed a Salute to Virginia Tech Banner provided by V 93.5 of The Radio People in Meridian in the wake of the recent tragedy on the Blacksburg, Virginia, campus. The 200-foot banner was full of signatures from area well-wishers when it was recently sent to the Virginia Tech faculty. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓ _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF 5-7-07

ECCC SBA officers

These students were recently elected to lead the Student Body Association for the 2007-08 term at East Central Community College. From left are president Dru Anderson and vice president Maegan Johnston, both of Decatur, secretary Julie Gaines of Philadelphia and treasurer Brookes Mayes of Newton. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF 5-7-07

ECCC students win in state PBL Conference

These East Central Community College students took top honors in the State Phi Beta Lambda Leadership Conference held recently in Tupelo and will advance to national competition scheduled later this summer. Pictured are (seated, from left) Samara Beckham of Philadelphia, first place, community service project; Joyce Richardson of Philadelphia, first, website development, and second, international business; Nicole Pittman of Newton, first, financial concepts; and Delynn Agee of Choctaw, first, partnership with business, and second, business decision making; and (standing, from left) Rebecca Rogers of Chunky, second, business decision making, and second, America Enterprise Project; Jeffery Davis of Louisville, first, business plan, and first, parliamentary procedures; William Cumberland of Philadelphia, first, parliamentary procedures; Andy Johnson of Philadelphia, first, business plan, and first, annual business report; Terry Smith of Louisville, first, parliamentary procedures; and

Carlos Rice of Louisville, first, parliamentary procedures. Not pictured are Courtney Yates of Louisville, second, business decision making; Brookes Mayes of Newton, first, business plan; and Leslie Nash of Union, first, impromptu speaking, and first, parliamentary procedures. Phi Beta Lambda is an organization for students interested in careers in a business-related field. Christy Ferguson serves as sponsor. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF May 7/07

East Central Community College recently announced inductees to the 2007 Hall of Fame, the highest honor a student can receive at the College. They include (seated, from left) Loren Kennedy of Union and Maggie McDill of Decatur; and (standing, from left) Victor Warnsley of Morton, Joshua Skinner of Union, Steven Cullen of Carthage and Colby Amis of Decatur. The honorees were announced during Awards Day activities held May 3 in Huff Auditorium. Their photos will hang in the Hall of Fame Collection in the lobby of Huff Auditorium.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL √

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

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WEEK OF May 7/07

ECCC PHOTO

MMMMMM, PIE!

Speech instructor Kevin Ryals of Louisville and assistant band director Jared Brownlee of Meridian raised $135 for the East Central Community College Relay for Life team by taking a pie in the face during the ECCC vs. Co-Lin baseball games. The teacher who raised the most money was to get the pie, but when there was a "tie" both teachers got "creamed." From left are Midge Davis of Decatur, relay team member and event organizer, baseball announcer Victor Warnsley of Morton, Caleb Brownlee of Meridian (with pie), Ryals, Brownlee, Caroline Brownlee of Meridian (with pie) and Karen Yates of Decatur, public information office secretary. Caleb and Caroline are the children of Jared Brownlee and they graciously agreed to throw the pies.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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WEEK OF May 7/07

Linda Pierce to retire following spring term

After 37 years in the field of education, East Central Community College English instructor Linda Pierce, who also serves as Chairperson of the Division of Communications, will retire from a job that she says was the best career move she ever made.

"East Central Community College has been a very important part of my life, both as a student and as an instructor," she said. "Accepting a position at East Central is the most positive career move I have ever made. I will be leaving East Central in May, but I will take with me many positive lifelong memories."

The people are what Pierce said she has enjoyed most about her job and that's exactly what she will miss most.

"The people are what I have enjoyed most," she said. "I will miss the everyday association with students, and I will especially miss my co-workers."

When asked what she would miss the least after retirement, Pierce said, "Grading the countless essays and research papers!"

Pierce said her former instructor, Ovid Vickers, led her into the teaching profession.

"When I was a student at East Central, Ovid Vickers encouraged me to major in English and become a teacher. He planted the idea, and the more I thought about it, the more I began to think it would be a good career choice.

"I love the study of English and literature, and I love being around people, so it seemed like the logical path to follow," she said.

Had she not become a teacher, Pierce said she would have probably continued pursuing a career in business, which is what she was majoring in at the time.

In discussing her future plans, Pierce said, "I plan to stay busy and not get lazy. However, I do hope to have time for doing some things I enjoy such as reading, traveling and spending time with family and friends."

Pierce has been employed at East Central for the past 13 years and has taught courses in Honors English Literature, American Literature, Honors English, Composition I and II, and Leadership.

In addition, she is a member of the curriculum committee, Homecoming committee, and the technology planning committee. Pierce served as the Self-Study Director and Chair of Institutional Effectiveness for the 2000 SACS Self-Study and Reaffirmation Visit. She is also a former advisor for the college Scholars Bowl team.

She taught English at Newton High School for eight years and was an instructor at Decatur High School for 16 years prior to accepting her position at East Central.

She was selected HEADWAE (High Education Day-Working Toward Academic Excellence) instructor in 1995, was selected to attend the Lamplighter's Program in 1997, and was selected for the Mississippi Community College Fellowship Program in 1997.

Pierce represented East Central as the Outstanding Humanities Instructor at the Natchez Literary Festival in 1998 and also attended the Phi Theta Kappa Leadership Seminar in West Cornwall, Connecticut, in 1998.

In 2001, she was selected as East Central's Academic Instructor of the Year.

She is past president of the Mississippi Council of Teachers of English and belongs to a number of professional organizations. She was selected STAR Teacher three times while teaching on the secondary level. In addition, she served eight years as an Alderman for the Town of Decatur. She is an active member of Clarke-Venable Baptist Church, where she teaches Sunday school.

Pierce is a graduate of East Central Junior College and holds both the bachelor and master's degrees in English from the University of Southern Mississippi. In addition, she holds the Educational Specialist degree from Mississippi State University.

She is married to Billy Pierce and has two children, three stepchildren and eight grandchildren.

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓ _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF May 7/07

Local Students awarded UWA Scholarships

Joy L. Hewitt

LIVINGSTON, Ala.—Two local students were recently awarded Trustees Scholarships to attend The University of West Alabama in Livingston. These awards, which are based on academic achievement and proven leadership potential, come from the UWA Office of Admissions.

Joy L. Hewitt of Union earned a $4,000 academic transfer scholarship. A student at East Central Community College, she plans to major in biology.

Marsha Hall Payne of Philadelphia also receives a $4,000 transfer scholarship. She plans to major in nursing.

APPEARED IN:

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF 5-7-07

Intramural Women's Softball Champs

"Hard Hittas" won the women's intramural softball championship held recently at East Central Community College in Decatur. Team members include (kneeling from left) Jenifer Sistrunk, Carthage; Kayla Wilson, Sebastopol; Chelsey Vincent, Decatur; Ashley Channell, Ackerman; and Chassidy Smith, Decatur; and (standing from left) Morgan Stringer, Decatur; Morgan Milling, Union; Rebecca Washburn, Highland, Illinois; Carol Creel, Birmingham; and Tre'Lynda Lewis, Noxapater. ECCC softball coach Scott Hill serves as director of intramurals. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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IMPACT _____

WEEK OF 5-7-07

Intramural Runners-Up

"The Braves" won second-place honors in the men's intramural softball tournament held recently at East Central Community College in Decatur. Team members include (kneeling from left) Daniel Pilgrim, Edinburg; Cory Burns, Carthage; Colby Amis, Decatur; Dusty Warner and Zac Richardson, both of Louisville; and Ryan Greenwood, Olive Branch; and (standing from left) Corey Blackwell, Nanih Waiya; Keith Edwards and Mike Gregory, both of Louisville; Coty Vandevender and Brent Blackwell, both of Nanih Waiya; and Brandon Jennings and Pat Peterson, both of Louisville. ECCC softball coach Scott Hill serves as director of intramurals. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF 5-7-07

Intramural Softball Champs

A team called "KFU" captured the men's intramural softball title at East Central Community College in Decatur. Team members include (kneeling from left) Ryan Parker, Morton; Jay Anthony, Pelahatchie; Tyson Stribling, Philadelphia; Caleb Brown, Morton; and Jess Brantley, Union; and (standing from left) James Harris, Morton; Austin McNair, Rick Parks and Brandon Womble, all of Philadelphia; and Kyle Jones, Nanih Waiya. ECCC softball coach Scott Hill serves as director of intramurals. (EC Photo)

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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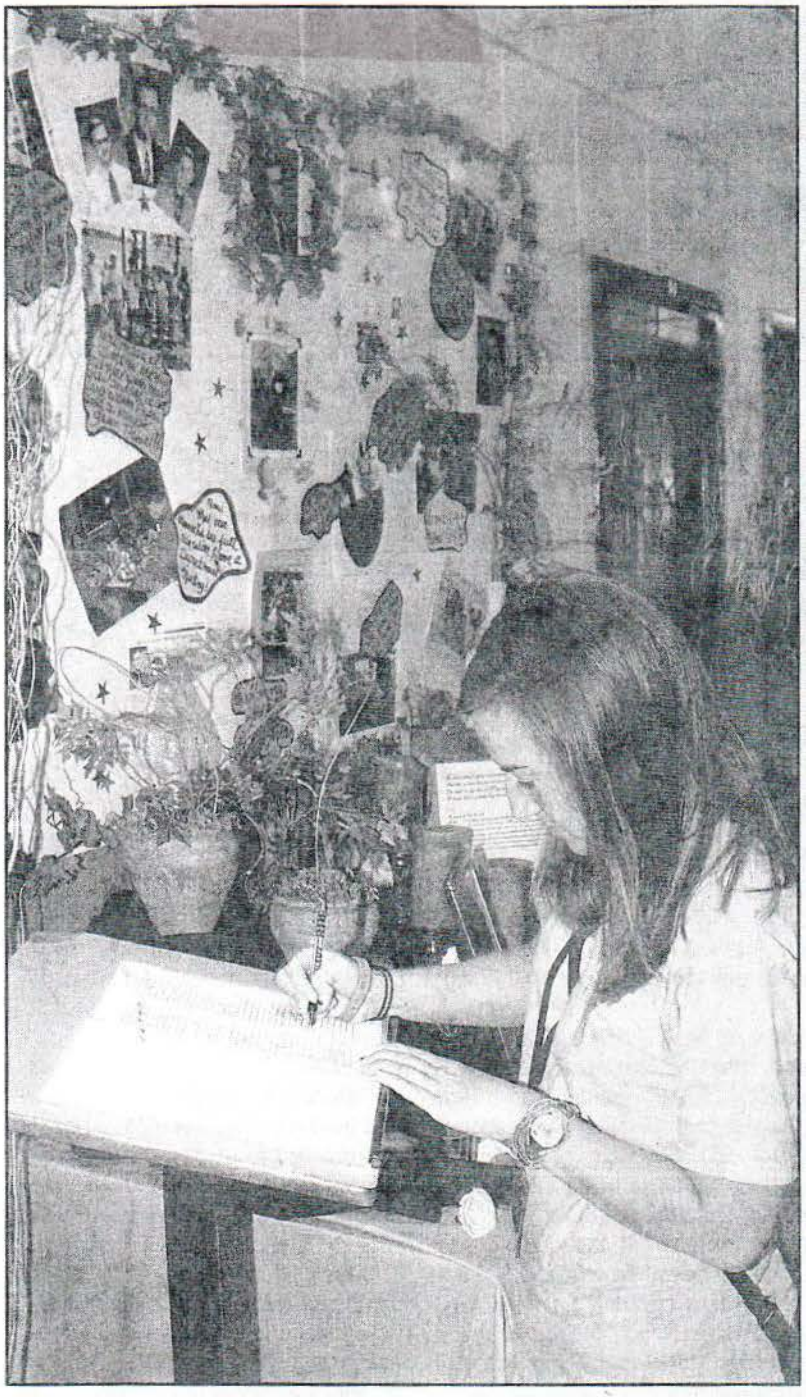
WEEK OF 5-7-07



Paying tribute to ECCC instructor

Celeste Burt, an East Central Community College sophomore from Philadelphia, signs the guest book at a memorial display in Cross Hall for the late Ron Davis. Davis taught biology courses for 19 years at East Central when he lost his battle to cancer on April 21, 2006. He had served a total of 29 years in the field of education. The display was arranged by members of the college's science department, one of whom is Davis' widow, Patti Davis. (EC Photo)

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UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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WEEK OF 5-7-07

Neshoba Central seniors visit ECCC

Neshoba Central High School seniors (from left) Dekota Anthony, Laura Baine, Autumn Durant, Rebecca Watkins and Jordan Lashley were among the approximately 800 students who attended Senior Days held recently at East Central Community College in Decatur. The special visitors received information on the College's academic, technical and career programs of study and learned about the various campus organizations during activities in theBrackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. Entertainment for the campus guests was provided by several ECCC musical groups. A complimentary lunch was also provided. Senior Days are held over a two-day period to accommodate the large crowd. Students from the college's five-county district, which includes Leake, Neshoba,Newton, Scott and Winston counties, are invited to attend the annual event.

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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ECCC graduation scheduled May 12 at Neshoba Coliseum

More than 480 students are scheduled to receive diplomas Saturday, May 12 when East Central Community College holds its 78th Commencement beginning at 11 a.m. in the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia.

Included in the total are those who completed degree requirements following the 2006 summer and fall terms, according to Dr. Lavinia Sparkman, Vice President for Instruction.

Those participating in the program include graduating sophomores Victor Warnsley of Morton, who will give the invocation; Loren Kennedy of Union, commencement speaker; and Celeste Burt of Philadelphia, benediction. Anse Rigby of Forest will present the musical selection "You Raise Me Up."

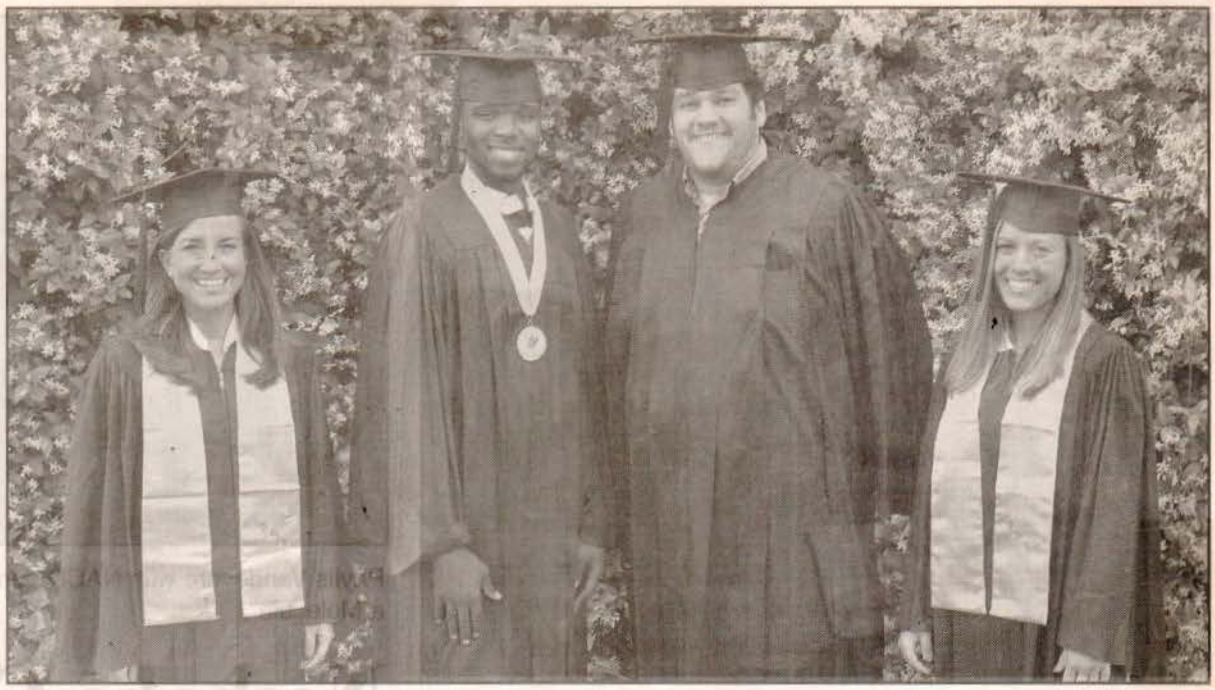
Dr. Sparkman will present candidates for graduation and ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin will award degrees and certificates to the following:

CANDIDATES FOR MAY GRADUATION

CHOCTAW: Delynn Shirakatrice Agee, Ramon V. Agurrie, Sherman Billie, Danita Nicole Stephens and Jerry Waiter;

PHILADELPHIA: Charleigh Anne Alford, Savannah R. Barksdale, Samara Lynn Beckham, Arthur Sean Breakfield, Heather Celeste Burt, Kristin Taylor Clark, Kristen Clark, Stephanie Nakia Dennis, Stephen Eichelberger, Brian Emerson, Patrice Fielder, Tonya T. Fortune, David R. Fryery, Chester Allen Greer Jr., Candace Nichole Griffin, Elizabeth Gail Henderson, Carletta Luanne Denson Henry, Maretta Hudson, Memory R. Hunter, Patrick Jackson, Talmage Jayroe, Andrew Paul

WEEK OF 5-7-07



More than 480 students are scheduled to receive diplomas Saturday, May 12 when East Central Community College holds its 78th Commencement beginning at 11 a.m. in the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia. Graduating sophomores participating on the program include (from left) Celeste Burt of Philadelphia, who will give the benediction; Victor Warnsley of Morton, invocation; Anse Rigby of Forest, who will present the musical selection "You Raise Me Up;" and Loren Kennedy of Union, commencement speaker. (EC Photo)

Johnson, Jo Anne Jones, Katherine Lindsey Jones, John Douglas Kelley, Jennifer King, Charles Cory Lewis, Hayley- Elizabeth Lewis, William Long, Jamie Martin, Donny Massey, Kurt Mikel May, Leon A. Melton, Kimberly Moody, Wesley H. Moody, Xazier Rashad Moore, Susanna M. Pace, Rayteshia Payne, Meredith Perry, Jonathan Brook Pickens, Michael Dewayne Pierce, Michael Dewayne Pierce, Paige Posey, Barry Joe Richardson, Joyce E. Richardson, Tiffany Robinson, Chris Stewart, Joshua Jermaine Stewart, Briana N. Stinson, Brad L. Stuart, Kristian Swearingen, Sunni C. Tolbert, Jeannie Triplett, Crystal Gail Watkins, Johnny G. Wells II, Sylvia Suzette Wesley, Larisa Shanell Willis, Megan Renae Winstead and Rodney S. Woodson;

UNION: Christopher Clay Arthur, Joe Oscar Buntyn, Jessica Laine Cager, Kimberly L. Cleveland, Sharmyn La'rea Crocker, Wes Driskell, Angela Williamson Ferguson, Shawn Giard, Cassie Grace Gordon, Luke Howell, Loren Michelle Kennedy, Benny Lee, Johnny R. Lewis, Morgan Milling, Amber Joy Timms Moore, Candy L. Moore, Jordan Robinson, William Daniel Russell, Andrew C. Sharp, Joshua B. Skinner, Kelly Lane Skinner, Morgan Staton, Natalie Shay Tatum, Tiffany Danielle Thomas, Jackie S. Thompson, Megan Tidwell, Treasure Vance, Benjamin Tyler Wallace and Gerry B. White;

DECEMBER 2006

Construction Company, a part of The Yates Companies, Inc.

Williamson will graduate from Neshoba Central High School this spring and plans to major in secondary education in college this fall. She is the daughter of Michael and Toni Williamson. Her mother works for Y.G. Yates & Sons Construction

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UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF 5-7-07

speaker tells graduates, 'strive to fulfill dreams'

be and do what you want to do because we only have one life to accomplish everything we want to accomplish."

In addition to challenging her classmates, Kennedy also praised them.

"I hope each of you will congratulate yourselves, walk with your head a little higher and pat yourselves on the back," she stated, "because believe it or not, we have made it!"

She continued, "We made it through studying all night for that final, the early morning cramming, and tests that we forgot about until the day of the exam! All the research, quizzes, homework, reading assignments and tests are behind us. We have persevered through many obstacles that were before us, and by overcoming those obstacles, we are much stronger individuals."

Kennedy, who also helped lead the Lady Warrior fast-pitch softball team to two MACJC Central Division titles, further commented "that each of us has hopes and fears, and as President Franklin D. Roosevelt's once said, "We have nothing to fear but fear itself."

Kennedy also shared a short story that relates to how one perceives his or her strengths and flaws.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

SPEECH

Loren Kennedy delivers her commencement speech at East Central Community College's 78th Commencement Saturday.

She told the tale of a water bearer in India who carried two large pots of water — one on each end of a long pole — each day to his master. One of the pots had a crack in it and the other pot was flawless. For two years, he carried the pots on the long walk from a steam to his master's house.

"The perfect pot was proud of its accomplishments, "Kennedy related, "never spilling a drop."

She said the cracked pot "was ashamed of its own imperfection and was miserable that it was unable to accomplish only half of what it had been made to do."

After two years of what was perceived to be a failure, Kennedy said the cracked pot "spoke" to the water bearer one day by the stream:

"I am ashamed of myself, and I want to apologize to you."

"Why?" asked the bearer. "What are you ashamed of?"

"I have been able, for these past two years, to deliver only half my load because this crack in my side causes water to leak out all the way back to your master's house. Because of my flaws, you have to do all of this work, and you don't get full value from your efforts," the pot said.

Kennedy said the water bearer "felt sorry" for the old cracked pot, and stated: "As we return to the master's house, I want you to notice the beautiful flowers along the path."

The cracked pot took notice of the beautiful wild flowers that grew on its side of the path, but again offered an apology for leaking half its load of water on each trip.

But Kennedy said the water bearer quickly gave the following response:

"Did you notice that there were flowers only on your side of the path? That's because I have always known about your flaw, and I took advantage of it. I planted flower seeds on your side of the path, and every day while we walked back from the stream, you've watered them. For two years I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate my master's table. Without your being just the way you are, he would not have this beauty to grace his house."

During her final comments, Kenned said each of us "has our own unique flaws," and that we are all "cracked pots" to some degree.

"But it's the cracks and flaws we each have that make our lives together so very interesting and rewarding. You've just got to take each person for what he or she is, and look for the good in everyone."

She concluded with the following wish for her fellow graduates:

"May your have enough happiness to make you sweet, enough trials to make you strong, enough sorrow to keep you human and enough hope to make you happy."

Other graduating sophomores participating in the commencement program were Anse Rigby of Forest, who performed a vocal selection of "You Raise Me Up;" Victory Warnsley of Morton, invocation; and Celeste Burt of Philadelphia, benediction.

ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin presented certificates and degrees to the graduates.

APPEARED IN:

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SCOTT COUNTY TIM

UNION APPEAL ___

WINSTON COUNTY

SPIRIT OF MORTON

OTHER _____

ECCC commencement

special to the star

Loren Kennedy told her fellow graduates at East Central Community College's 78th Commencement Saturday that today "marks the conclusion of a period of determination, commitment, success and accomplishment ... and we should all be very proud."

Kennedy, a President's List scholar whose honors at ECCC include her selection to the 2007 Hall of Fame, addressed the approximately 480 graduates who received diplomas at the second annual graduation ceremony held in the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia.

"Some of us," she continued, "have another step to take on the ladder of education. Others will begin careers as members of the workforce."

"But whatever lies in your future," Kennedy stated, "you have to strive to fulfill those dreams. I hope that each of you will dream what you want to dream, be what you want to

ECCC award winners

Recipients of East Central Community College tennis team awards for the 2007 season include (from left) Maggie McDill, women's scholar athlete, and Dru Anderson, women's most valuable player, both of Decatur and Newton County High School products; Neshoba Central graduate Briana Stinson of Philadelphia, women's most improved; and Josh Moore of Newton, men's most improved. Not pictured are Warriors James Harris of Morton and Wade Brown of Forest, who received most valuable player and scholar athlete award, respectively. The Lady Warriors finished tied for third in the state tournament and the men placed sixth in state competition. The combined season record for both teams was 7-5.

Colby Amis (left) of Decatur and Alex Deason of Philadelphia received golf team honors at the annual East Central Community College Spring Sports Banquet held on theDecatur campus. Amis received the academic award and Deason, a graduate of Philadelphia High School, was recognized as having the lowest scoring average. Deason also made the All-Tournament Team, which includes the top 10 com-

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Carson wraps up 25 years of music

By Bill Graham
Appeal News Editor

Husband.
Father.
Marching band director.
Weight loss expert.
World traveler.
Son of a diplomat.
Rock and roll guitar player.

Tom Carson is all of those, and more.

On a quiet Monday morning, Carson is sitting in his office at East Central Community College, where he has just finished 25 years as Director of Bands.

Tom Carson

But looking back, Carson says he never planned on a career in music education.

Carson, whose father was a diplomat Consul General, actually grew up in Europe and South America.

"I went to 14 different schools," he remembers.

"I wasn't even in the band in high school, " he says, because schools in Europe don't have marching bands.

In 1973, his father retired and decided to move back to Mississippi.

" We were living in Italy at the time. I remember like it was yesterday: on May 7 I was walking around in Naples, Italy, and on May 20, I was standing in Conehatta, Mississippi, saying 'What the heck is going on?"

The college freshman started at ECCC (then East Central Junior College) as a theater major, having some experience in the dramatic arts: he had performed the Greek play *Antigone* in the ruins of Pompeii.

But he also had an interest in rock music, and had been playing guitar since his early teens.

"I was sort of a rebel," he recalls. "I liked groups like the Rolling Stones."

The self-profesed introvert says he "spent hours and hours recording songs off of records, and singing along with them, playing guitar along with them, and doing my own arrangements."

The band director at EC convinced him to major in music, which necessitated a shift to a very un-rock and roll instrument: the French horn.

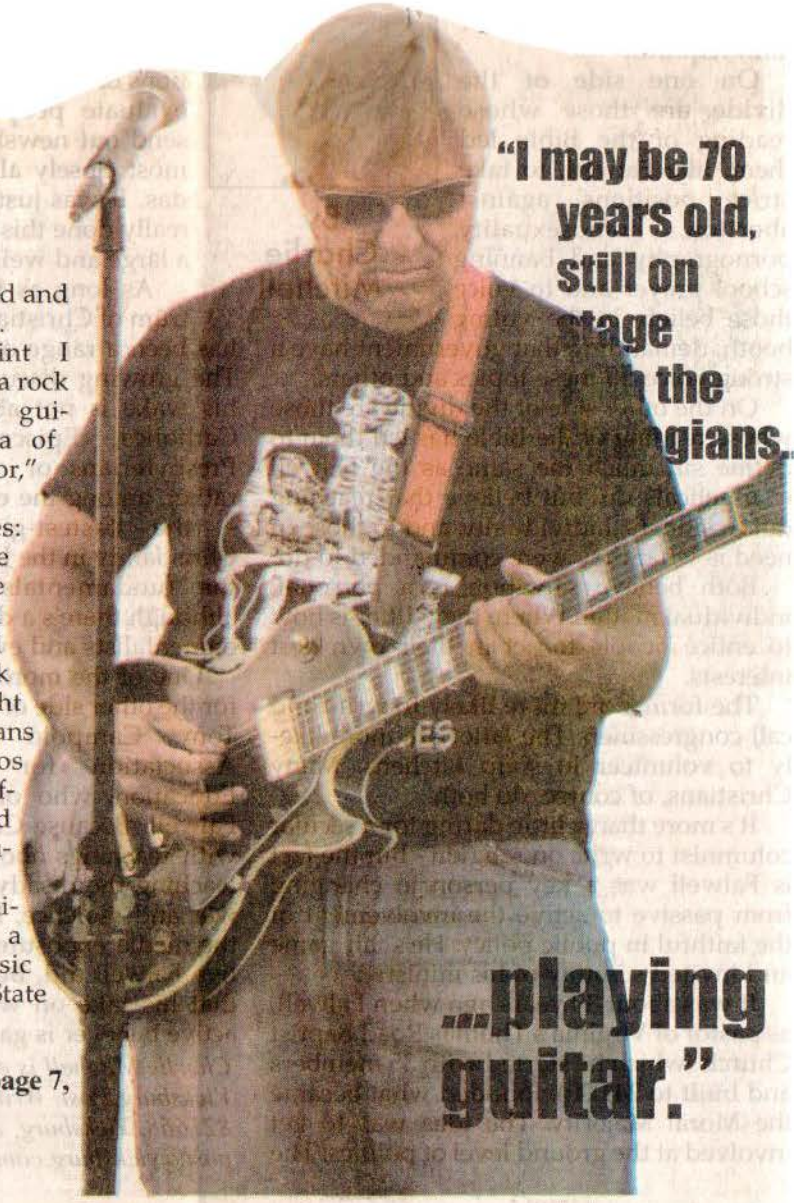
"It was all new to me," he says, when he took the field with the band and a funny looking horn.

"At that point I thought 'I want to be a rock star now and play guitar'...I had no idea of being a band director," he says.

He continues: "Then my sophomore year I met my wife and fell in love, and at that point I started looking at this rock band thing...I thought that living out of vans and eating Cheetos might not be too profitable, so I started looking at music education."

The young guitar player earned a degree in Music Education at Delta State University.

Continued on page 7, see Carson...



"I may be 70 years old, still on stage with the musicians...playing guitar."

WEEK OF 5-21-07

Carson

...Continued from page 1A

"And here I am, a band director..this is something I never would've thought I would've done...but I thoroughly enjoy it."

His first year as band director at EC, he managed the small 17 member marching band (it now averages 150 members), started a jazz band, and worked with the Collegians, the show choir.

"I wanted to have a rock 'n' roll band," he says, so he dispensed with the show choir style and pointed the group towards rock and roll town.

"I played in rock bands all through college...I saw the potential that there were a lot of students who weren't (marching) band students but liked music. This was a chance to get students involved and see what it was like to have a working rock and roll band to be in."

The Collegians have become famous for their high energy shows, always in tune with current trends in pop music.

Carson has the task of arranging the music and expanding what he hears on the radio. Most pop acts are four or five piece bands, while The Collegians can stretch to over a dozen members, with a full horn section, multiple singers, and percussionists.

On Sunday nights, in preparation for Monday evening's practice, he puts on headphones and writes out the parts, isolating each instrument, starting with bass guitar.

"You can't buy published arrangements, so I have to write everything from scratch to make it sound just like it does on the cd," he says.

"I hand write everything", even though there is computer software that could make it easier.

"I'm just old-school," he laughs.

Along with directing the marching and jazz bands, and playing with the Collegians, Carson has his hands full with side projects.

There's City Lights, his country group that plays regionally, The EC Rockers, made up of EC employees and alumni, and what he calls his "proudest accomplishment": The Hopeless Rejects.

His 14 year old son Jeremy fronts the band, made up of 7th and 8th graders.

Jeremy isn't the only child artistically inclined: oldest son Chris studies theater at USM, where daughter Jennifer just graduated with a degree in music education.

Carson's wife Brenda has also just finished 25 years at EC as director of the financial aid office.

"We both love East Central," he says. "Talk about bleeding black and gold, if you got a knife, I would bleed black and she would bleed gold."

With band director duties and side gigs, Carson has little down time.

In what little free time he has, Carson might be found working out in his gym at home.

"It's a necessity, I have to do it," he says, then relates perhaps his greatest acievement.

"I lost a tremendous amount of weight about 3 years ago when I lost 165 pounds," he says. "It helped a lot with my energy level and gave me a new lease on life."

Staying healthy (he loves cooking) and working with his students are his passions, but of course, there's playing the guitar:

"I haven't put the guitar down," Carson says. "I probably play more now than I did when I was younger. That's my passion."

"I may be 70 years old, still on stage with the Collegians playing guitar," he laughs.

He'll be on stage when the Collegians finish this year's 'tour' at the Neshoba County Fair this summer.

Then it's back to drawing board- and staff paper- to begin recruiting young musicians for the next school year.

"Every year there is something new to think about."

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UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

Morton Grad Named To ECCC Hall Of Fame

East Central Community College recently announced inductees to the 2007 Hall of Fame, the highest honor a student can receive at the College.

They include (seated, from left) Loren Kennedy of Union and Maggie McDill of Decatur; and (standing, from left) Victor Warnsley of Morton, Joshua Skinner of Union, Steven Cullen of Carthage and Colby Amis of Decatur. The honorees were announced during Awards Day activities held May 3 in Huff Auditorium. Their photos will hang in the Hall of Fame Collection in the lobby of Huff Auditorium.

Selection to the Hall of Fame is considered the highest honor a student can receive at the College, according to Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, ECCC president, who presented the awards.

"To be considered for the prestigious honor," Dr. Sutphin stated, "students must demonstrate exemplary character, superior scholarship, worthy leadership and contribute to the betterment of East Central Community College."

Warnsley, whose major is business administration, is recognized as a National Dean's List Scholar and ECCC Dean's List Scholar. He has also been named to Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges.

He served as president of various organizations, including the Warrior Corps, Young Democrats and Phi Beta Lambda, an organization for business students. He also served as vice president of SADD and vice president of scholarship for Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa.

He was also a member of the Presidents' Council, Scholars Bowl Team, EC Environmental Club, and Wo-He-Lo and Tom-Tom staffs.

Warnsley is a recipient of the L. B. Simmons History Award and the PTK Margaret Mosal Award for Leadership.

He participated in Hurricane Katrina Relief efforts on the Gulf Coast and served as public address announcer for ECCC baseball games.

A graduate of Morton High School, he is the son of Helen Johnson and the late Victor C. Warnsley of Morton.

Those nominating Warnsley made the following comments:

"Victor is a very mature and active student at ECCC. He is a natural leader and takes all of his responsibilities seriously.

"Victor is a highly intelligent and dedicated student who is never without an insightful idea. He is passionate about sharing his ideas with others and effectively expresses his convictions. He also demonstrates a willingness to serve others. He cares about the College and the community as a whole, and devotes much of his time to improving both in whatever way he can. In short, he is the embodiment of all the qualities sought after in an ECCC Hall of Fame nominee.

"Victor is goal-oriented and focused. He demonstrates a gust for reading, learning and leadership, indicative of his academic achievements, involvement with campus activities and community work. He is keenly aware of current events and political occurrences. Victor is an excellent role model, not only demonstrating his desire to always learn more and do more, he is also a compassionate and caring young man. He is very considerate of others and is very dedicated to his church activities. It is indeed an honor to nominate Victor Warnsley for the ECCC Hall of Fame."

Morton High School graduate Victor Warnsley was named to the East Central Community College 2007 Hall of Fame.

WEEK OF May 28, 2007

ECCC Recognizes Award Winners From Scott County

Recipients of Hall of Fame and other honors were recognized during the annual Awards Day program held May 3, 2007, at East Central Community College. Additional honors presented during Awards Day include the following: Vocational award recipients include Brian Hillie of Lawrence, cabinetmaking; and Audrey Neal of Forest, practical nursing.

Technical awards were presented to Matthew Wilkerson of Walnut Grove, electrical technology.

Those receiving special awards were Andy Anderson of Morton, The Tom Tom student newpaper; Heath Street of Lake, Valerie Gatewood of Forest, freshman mathematics; Robby Pierce of Lawrence, sophomore mathematics; Raquel Hollingsworth of Forest, secondary education; Jason Weatherford of Forest, S. Lebrun Hutchinson; Heather Bounds of Conehatta, Myrtle R. Hutchison Elementary Education; Shannon Davis of Morton, Associate Degree Nursing Outstanding Achievement;

Alumni Memorial Awards were presented to Raquel Hollingsworth of Forest, Alatha Chaney English Award; Robby Pierce of Lawrence, W. A. Coursey, Jr. Engineering; Dollye Packer of Lake, Sara Carr Deaton Business Technology; Justin Hurdle of Forest, Homer F. Hunter Award for Athletic Managers; Daniel Russum of Pulaski, Danny Ray Killens Engineering;

Faculty Memorial Awards were presented to Joseph Cieglo of Lake , Shelby L. Harris Memorial; Annie Strohm of Morton; Frank Edwin & Nena Holt Leatherwood, Biology Science; Heath Street of Lake, J. Andy Miller Freshman Engineering; Megan Thomas of Forest, Ruth Hull Wo-He-Lo yearbook.

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WEEK OF May 28, 2007

ECCC Students Receive MSU Scholarships

These East Central Community College students received various transfer scholarships to Mississippi State University, which were presented during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 3 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Scholarship recipients include (seated from left) Chasidy Smith of Noxapater, Morgan Milling and Kim Cleveland, both of Union; Krista Chaney of Little Rock and Hannah Luke of Preston; and (back row, from left) Victor Warnsley of Morton, Raquel Hollingsworth of Forest, Joshua Skinner of Union, Steven Cullen of Carthage and Colby Amis of Decatur. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF May 28, 2007

Sullivan receives MSU Scholarship

Caylee Sullivan (right) of Louisville was among East Central Community College students who were presented Mississippi State University transfer scholarships during Awards Day activities held recently on the Decatur campus. Sullivan, a graduate of Winston Academy, is shown receiving the honor from Lanette Hanna, ECCC academic counselor/recruiter.

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WEEK OF May 28, 2007

Building Programs

ECCC holds pinning ceremony recognizing 45 ADN graduates

Forty-five new nurses will soon enter the healthcare field following the annual Associate Degree Nursing Pinning Ceremony held recently at East Central Community College in Decatur.

ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin congratulated the graduates during his remarks and provided encouragement as they prepare for the state board examination.

Dr. Lavinia Sparkman, vice president for instruction, also praised

the graduates and recognized members of the ADN faculty who include: Nan Anderson, Teresa Boykin, Sherri Cantey, Lisa Gorgas, Brenda Kirby, Linda Kirkman, Betsy Mann, Wendy Moore, Cynthia Odom and Christy Savell. Dr. Melanie Gilmore is also a member of the faculty and serves as dean of healthcare education.

Several students participated in the special program, including

Shannon Davis of Morton, who addressed the graduates; Donnie Massey of Philadelphia, invocation; and Zoie Hardy of Lawrence, closing prayer. Davis was also recognized as ADN Student of the Year.

Odom pinned the 45 graduates in the Class of 2007 who include by county:

Kemper County: Alisha Bohannon, Collinsville;

Lauderdale County: Melanie Jones, Anita Palmer and Dina Smith, all of Meridian;

Leake County: Mandy Comans, Robin Gates, Janet Kelly and Shirley White, all of Carthage; Stewart W. Hoy, Edinburg; and Ashley Windham, Sebastopol;

Neshoba County; Kristin Taylor Clark, Mary Kristen Clark, Brandi Durant, David Freyery, Jo Anne Jones, Donnie Massey and Meredith Perry, all of Philadelphia;

Newton County; Lindsey Alexander, Little Rock; Bruce Thrash, Leigh Ann Thrash and Kristan Valentine, all of Conehatta; Jennifer Davis and Ryan McMillan, both of Hickory; Tony Gannon, Newton; Josh Graham, Ryan Loper and Jess McDaniel, all of Decatur; Zoie Hardy, Lawrence; Kelly Skinner, Union; and Lorie A. Sullivan, Lake.

Rankin County: Sarah Martin, Brandon;

Scott County: Eileen Adcox, LaShondra Bradford, Bobby L.

See **ADN**, page 12A

Engle, Jr. and Sara Stiles, all of Forest; Shannon Davis, Amanda Miles and Sedonia Smith, all of Morton; and Michelle Gray, Lake;

Smith County: Cynthia Ivy, Raleigh; and

Winston County: Lesley W. Carr, Christy Dempsey, Casey Hill and Joni Mitchell, all of Louisville; and Twanesha McDonald, Preston.

For more information regarding the College's Associate Degree Nursing Program, contact Dr. Melanie Gilmore, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 294. The email address is mgilmore@eccc.edu.

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Local Students Attend EC

ECCC PHOTO

FOREST STUDENTS ATTEND ECCC SENIOR DAYS

These Forest High School seniors were among the approximately 800 students who attended Senior Days held recently at East Central Community College in Decatur. From left are Jessica Brown, Melanie Hatch, Ben Kenna, Kerri Bailey and Lee Anna Crimm, who are shown with academic counselor/Michael Alexander. The special visitors received information on the College's academic, technical and career programs of study and learned about the various campus organizations during activities held in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. Entertainment for the campus guests was provided by several ECCC musical groups. A complimentary lunch was also provided.

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MORTON SENI CA

Morton High School seniors (fron Miranda, Gianella Araujo and Mari mately 800 students who attended S Community College in Decatur. The on the College's academic, technica learned about the various campus o Brackeen-Wood Physical Education us guests was provided by several y lunch was also provided

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MERIDIAN STAR ____
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IMPACT ____

WEEK OF May 28, 2007

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC HEALTH CARE ASSISTANT PROGRAM GRADUATES

These students are shown displaying certificates received for completing the Health Care Assistant Program at East Central Community College in Decatur. Seated from left are Wanda Roberson, Noxapater; Serina Seals, Newton; Sabrina Terrell, Conehatta; Debra Clemons, Philadelphia; and Mildred Curry, Newton. Standing from left are Clarence White, Forest; Margo Everett, Lake; Sheila Jackson, Meridian; Page Kelly, Decatur; and Myranda McDonald, Newton. Students who complete the six-month program qualify for employment as nurse assistants, long-term care aides or home-health aides in the Mississippi health care industry. For more information contact instructor Tosha Sanders, Phone 606-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 131. Her email address is tsanders@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF May 28, 2007

Area students earn nursing degrees

Six area students recently completed the associate degree nursing program at East Central Community College and were recognized at pinning ceremonies on the Decatur campus. Graduates included, from left, front, Mandy Comans, Carthage; Stewart W. Hoy, Edinburg; Ashley Windham, Sebastopol, back, Shirley White, Janet Kelly and Robin Gates, all of Carthage.

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WEEK OF May 28, 2007

Scott Countians Presented ECCC Nursing Degrees

These students from Scott County recently completed the two-year associate degree nursing program at East Central Community College and were recognized for their achievement at the annual ADN Pinning Ceremony held on the Decatur campus. Seated from left are Sedonia Smith, Morton; LaShondra Bradford, Forest; Michelle Gray, Lake; and Eileen Adcox, Forest. Standing from left are Bobby L. Engle, Jr., and Sara Stiles, both of Forest, and Amanda Miles and Shannon Davis, both of Morton. Davis was selected ADN Student of the Year and served as program speaker. Also participating in the ceremony were Donnie Massey of Philadelphia, invocation; and Zoie Hardy of Lawrence, closing prayer. Faculty member Cynthia Odom pinned the 45 graduates who comprise the "Class of 200." Dr. Melanie Gilmore serves as dean of healthcare education. (EC Photo)

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28, 2007

Newton Countians Presented ECCC Nursing Degrees

These students from the Newton County area recently completed the two-year associate degree nursing program at East Central Community College and were recognized for their achievement at the annual ADN Pinning Ceremony held on the Decatur campus. First row, from left, are Jennifer Davis, Hickory; Kelly Skinner, Union; Jessi McDaniel, Decatur; Lindsey Alexander, Little Rock; and Kristen Taylor Clark, Conehatta. Second row, from left, are Kristan Valentine, Conehatta; Zoie Hardy, Lawrence; Bruce Thrash, Conehatta; and Ryan McMillan, Hickory. Back row, from left, are Leigh Ann Thrash, Conehatta; Lorie A. Sullivan, Lake; Ryan Loper, Decatur; Tony Gannon, Newton; and Josh Graham, Decatur. Hardy was among students who participated in the program and provided the closing prayer. Shannon Davis of Morton was program speaker and Donnie Massey of Philadelphia gave the invocation. Faculty member Cynthia Odom pinned the 45 graduates who comprise the "Class of 2007." Dr. Melanie Gilmore serves as dean of healthcare education. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF June 4, 2007

ECCC names Cullen to Hall of Fame

Steve Cullen, of Carthage, has been named among six new members of the East Central Community College Hall of Fame.

Cullen was named a 2006-07 inductee along with Colby Amis and Maggie McDill, both of Decatur; Loren Kennedy and Joshua Skinner, both of Union; and Victor Warnsley, of Morton.

Cullen is a computer science major, who is a Dean's List Scholar and a member of Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges.

He served as president of the EC Environmental Club, Phi Theta Kappa and Mu Alpha Theta; a math student organization.

He was also a member of the *Wo-He-Lo* annual staff, the ECCC Players, the Baptist Student Union, the Wesley Foundation and Alpha Alpha Epsilon, "The Engineers."

He received the Ann H. Burkes Phi Theta Kappa Scholarship, the Shelby L. Harris Memorial Scholarship, the EC Players Award and the EC Environmental Award.

CULLEN

The Carthage High School graduate is the son of Allen and Monica Cullen, of Carthage.

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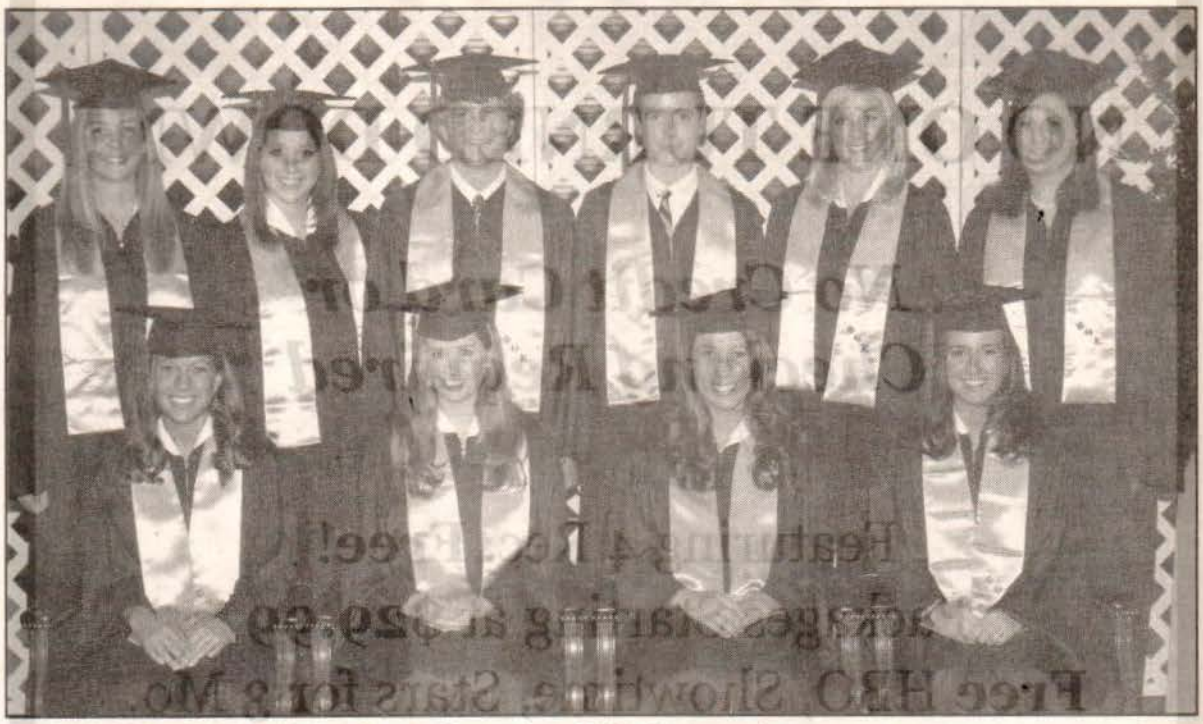
WEEK OF June 4, 2007



ECCC's NJCAA Academic All-Americans

These student-athletes at East Central Community College inDecaturwere namedNational Junior CollegeAthletic Association (NJCAA) Academic All-Americans for 2006-07. Honorees and their respective sports area include (seated from left) Loren Kennedy (softball) and Kim Cleveland (tennis), both of Union; and Briana Stinson (tennis) and Celeste Burt (soccer), both ofPhiladelphia. Standing from left are Amanda Schmidt (softball),Carthage; Maggie McDill (soccer and tennis) and Colby Amis (football and golf), both ofDecatur; Wade Brown (tennis), Forest; Chelsea Brown (soccer and tennis), Perkinston: and Brittany Harper (soccer),Meridian. Amis, Kennedy, McDill, Stinson, Harper, Burt and Schmidt were named Distinguished Academic All-Americans for achieving a 3.8 grade point average or above. Cleveland, Chelsea Brown and Wade Brown qualified as Academic All-Americans for earning at least a 3.6 GPA. Students who receive NJCAA Academic All-American honors must have completed three semesters of college work and participated in at least one athletic season on the varsity level.

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WEEK OF June 4, 2007

Alumni Memorial Award recipients

These students received Alumni Memorial awards during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 3 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Students and their respective awards include (from left) Rhonda May of Newton, Ruth Carr-Vincent Award for Academic Excellence in Non-Traditional Education; Amanda Schmidt of Carthage, Opal McMullan Dickerson Elementary Education; Raquel Hollingsworth of Forest, Alatha Chaney English Award; Robby Pierce of Lawrence, W. A. Coursey, Jr. Engineering; Dollye Packer of Lake, Sara Carr Deaton Business Technology; Angela Boatner of Philadelphia, Sue Yarbrough Fulgham Speech; and Jeffery Davis of Louisville, William S. Giffin Men's Intramural; and (back row, from left) Matt Fondren of West Point and Justin Hurdle of Forest, Homer F. Hunter Award for Athletic Managers; Daniel Russum of Pulaski, Danny Ray Killens Engineering; Steven Cullen of Carthage, Jack B. Mayo Phi Theta Kappa; Robyn Watts of Union, Dr. Edwin Miller Medical Services; Earnesto Green of Jackson, Howard Sessums Men's Basketball; Colby Amis of Decatur, Andrew F. Webb Football; and Julie Gaines of Philadelphia, Thomas W. Thrash Memorial. Not pictured are Daniel Colby Hawthorne of McNeill, Billy Wayne Baucum Award for Secondary Education; and Andrea Dubose of Hickory, Earline Wood Memorial for Women's Basketball.

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WEEK OF June 4, 2007

Scott Officials Visit ECCC

Scott County officials recently visited the East Central Community College campus in Decatur and were luncheon guests at the May meeting of the College's Board of Trustees. The special guests are shown with Scott County trustees. Seated from left are Joe Rigby, circuit clerk; supervisors Tim Sorey (District Two), Buford Palmer (District Three) Jackie Bradford, (District One) and Jack Gordon (District Four); and Myra Murrell-Davis, tax assessor/collector. Standing from left are Bruce McMillan, District Five supervisor; trustees Frank McCurdy of Morton, who serves as Scott County Superintendent of Education; Royce Shaw (Board secretary), Forest; Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth, Lake; Rebecca Farris and Vernon Crotwell, both of Morton; Victor Warnsley of Morton, ECCC Hall of Fame member and honor graduate who was a special guest at the luncheon; and trustee Annie Stowers, Forest. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF June 4, 2007

Capacity field expected for Golf Classic

Only a few openings remain for golfers planning to participate in the Warrior Golf Classic scheduled Friday, June 22, 2007, at the Dancing Rabbit Golf Club in Choctaw.

Twenty-one teams have signed up as of May 31 for the four-person scramble, which is sponsored by the East Central Community College Alumni Association as a fundraiser for student scholarships, according to tournament coordinator Stacey Hollingsworth, who serves as executive director for Foundation and Alumni Relations.

Hollingsworth said she hopes at least four more teams will sign up to reach this year's goal.

Tee-off time is set for 10 a.m. on The Oaks Course and follows a registration period that begins at 9 a.m. near the club house.

Entry fee is $125 per person or $500 per team, and includes green fee, golf cart and a box lunch.

Gold sponsorships are $650, which includes fees for a four-person team and a hole sponsorship. Silver sponsorships are $400 and includes fees for two players and a hole sponsorship. Hole sponsorships are available for $200 each.

Hollingsworth said prizes will be presented to the corporate division winner and the top three teams in each flight. Numerous door prizes will also be awarded. However, she added that the "biggest prize" goes to students who are recipients of annual scholarships made possible by tournament proceeds.

"Thanks to the great response from alumni and friends of the College, we have provided over $18,000 in scholarship monies for students in Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties since the tournament began in 2002," Hollingsworth stated. "We are looking forward to another great tournament and encourage those who have not participated in the past to be a part of this year's fundraising event."

Sponsors as of May 31 include: Gold - Applied GEO Technologies, Inc., Choctaw; BankPlus, Ridgeland; The Citizens Bank of Philadelphia; Community Bank, Forest; Entergy Services, Inc., Jackson; First Financial Bank, Carthage; Glynn Griffing and Associates, Jackson; Howard Computers, Laurel; Killens Chevrolet-Olds-Pontiac, Newton; Michael F. Payment, Jackson; Rush Health Systems, Meridian; and Tyson Foods, Inc., Carthage and Forest; Silver - La-Z-Boy South, Newton; Bronze - Capital Oil, Inc., Jackson and Newton; First American Printing and Direct Mail, Choctaw and Ocean Springs; Popeyes, Philadelphia and Meridian; and Senator Terry C. Burton, Newton; Hole-in-One- Killens Chevrolet-Olds-Pontiac, Newton; Team Sponsors – Gardner Insurance Agency, Newton; UBS Financial Services, Inc., Meridian; and Valley Services, Inc., Jackson; Player Sponsor - Newton County Bank, Newton; and Drive-the-Middle Contest Sponsor - Birdies for Charity, Jackson.

For more information about the Warrior Golf Classic, contact Stacey Hollingsworth at ECCC, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 327. The email address is sholling@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF June 4, 2007

ECCC holds pinning ceremony

From press reports

Forty-five new nurses will soon enter the healthcare field following the annual Associate Degree Nursing Pinning Ceremony held recently at East Central Community College in Decatur.

ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin congratulated the graduates during his remarks and provided encouragement as they prepare for the state board examination.

Dr. Lavinia Sparkman, vice president for instruction, also praised the graduates and recognized members of the ADN faculty who include: Nan Anderson, Teresa Boykin, Sherri Cantey, Lisa Gorgas, Brenda Kirby, Linda Kirkman, Betsy Mann, Wendy Moore, Cynthia Odom and Christy Savell. Dr. Melanie Gilmore is also a member of the faculty and serves as dean of healthcare education.

Several students participated in the special program, including Shannon Davis of Morton, who addressed the graduates; Donnie Massey of Philadelphia, invocation; and Zoie Hardy of Lawrence, closing prayer. Davis was also recognized as ADN Student of the Year.

Odom pinned the 45 graduates in the Class of 2007 who include these Winston Countians: Lesley W. Carr, Christy Dempsey, Casey Hill and Joni Mitchell, all of Louisville; and Twanesha McDonald, Preston.

For more information regarding the College's Associate Degree Nursing Program, contact Dr. Melanie Gilmore, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 294. The email address is mgilmore@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF June 4, 2007

Faculty/Staff

ECCC Retirees Honored

East Central Community College retirees Linda Pierce (left) and Dr. Linda Lane were honored during the College's annual end-of-the-year luncheon held recently in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria on the Decatur campus. Pierce, who served as Chairperson of the Division of Communications and English instructor, began her career at East Central in 1994. She has completed 37 years in the field of education, including stints at Decatur and Newton high schools. Dr. Lane, who completed 40 years as a foreign language teacher, had been employed at East Central since 1999. She also held teaching positions at the University of Mobile, Mississippi College and Mississippi University for Women. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF June 4, 2007

MSU Scholarships

ECCC students receive MSU scholarships

These East Central Community College students received various transfer scholarships to Mississippi State University, which were presented during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 3 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Scholarship recipients include (seated from left) Chasidy Smith of Noxapater, Morgan Milling and Kim Cleveland, both of Union; Krista Chaney of Little Rock and Hannah Luke of Preston; and (back row, from left) Victor Warnsley of Morton, Raquel Hollingsworth of Forest, Joshua Skinner of Union, Steven Cullen of Carthage and Colby Amis of Decatur.

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WEEK OF June 4, 2007

CHANEY RECEIVES MSANG SCHOLARSHIP: Krista Chaney (right) of Little Rock was recently awarded the Mississippi Air National Guard NCO Association Chapter Scholarship. Msgt. Deborah D. Fielder made the presentation during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 3 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Pictured with the recipient is ECCC Vice President for Student Services Joe Killens.

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WEEK OF June 4, 2007

Nursing program completers

These students from the Winston County area recently completed the two-year associate degree nursing program at East Central Community College and were recognized for their achievement at the annual ADN Pinning Ceremony held on the Decatur campus. Seated from left are Casey Hill, Louisville; Twanesha McDonald, Preston; and Mary Kristen Clark, Louisville. Standing from left are Lesley W. Carr, Christy Dempsey and Joni Mitchell, all of Louisville. Several students participated in the program including Shannon Davis of Morton, speaker; Donnie Massey of Philadelphia, invocation; and Zoie Hardy of Lawrence, closing prayer. Faculty member Cynthia Odom pinned the 45 graduates who comprise the "Class of 2007." Dr. Melanie Gilmore serves as dean of healthcare education.

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WEEK OF June 11, 2007

Door prizes needed

Coolers and T-shirts are just a few of the many door prizes and other give-a-ways to be presented at the sixth annual East Central Community College Warrior Golf Classic scheduled Friday, June 22, 2007, at the Dancing Rabbit Golf Club in Choctaw. Sponsored by the College's Alumni Association, the four-person scramble provides scholarships for students residing in the College's five-county district, which includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties. Entry fee is $125 per person and includes green fee, cart and box lunch. Corporate sponsorships are also available. Tee-off time is set for 10 a.m. on The Oaks Course. Shown above are (from left) ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin and Association officials Lynn Hayes of Decatur, past president; James Vance of Meridian, out-of-district representative; Newton County representatives Lois Cooper and Ann Burkes, both of Decatur; Dayna Morgan of Philadelphia, Neshoba County representative; Tam Yowell of Brandon, out-of-district representative; Flo Henley of Starkville, president; and Bill Lovett of Forest, past president. To submit a door prize or for more information contact Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director of Foundation and Alumni Relations, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 327. The email address is sholling@eccc.edu.

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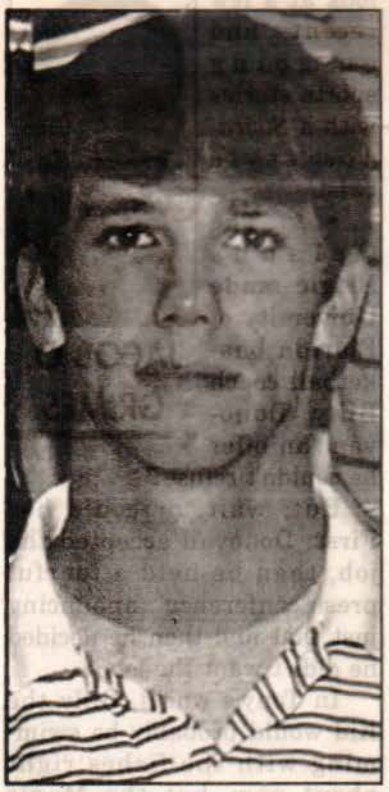

DENSON

J. Denson receives EC award

After capping his career as a member of the East Central Community College Diamond Warriors' state championship team, Josh Denson continued to receive honors in the post-season.

Denson, a 2005 graduate of Carthage High School, was named to the All-State second team and was presented the "Most Improved Player" award by Warriors' first-year head coach Neal Holliman.

A 6'4", 140-pound pitcher, Denson and the Warriors completed the 2007 season with an overall record of 31-23 after being eliminated from the Region 23 Tournament.

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SPIRIT OF MORTON

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WEEK OF June 11, 2007

Wright attends ECCC Orientation

Winston Academy product Samantha Wright (left) of Louisville was among the record 329 students who attended the June 1 orientation session held at East Central Community College in Decatur. The incoming ECCC freshman is shown receiving assistance from College personnel Teri Killens (center) and Marcie Pinson. During orientation, students register for fall classes and receive information about various campus activities. Additional sessions are scheduled Saturday, June 16; Thursday, June 28; Wednesday, July 18; and Friday, August 10. Fall classes begin Thursday, August 16. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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Newton County High School graduatet Calli Cumberland (right) was among the record 329 students who attended orientation June 1 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Cumberland is with counselor Lanette Hanna who provided assistance to the freshman in planning fall classes. Additional orientation is scheduled Saturday, June 16; Thursday, June 28; Wednesday, July 18; and Friday, August 10. Fall classes begin Thursday, August 16. For information call ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or , 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205.

ECCC bursting at the seams?

Record orientation has EC administration hopeful

Special To The Record

The summer orientation schedule began on a successful note for East Central Community College as a record 329 students attended the June 1 session held on the Decatur campus.

College officials obviously hope the large turnout for the summer's first orientation session is an indicator of what's to follow in the four

in the past 10 years."

Although a record number attended the first session, Killens said efforts are continuing to attract more students to the Decatur campus.

"We are continuing our recruiting efforts in order to obtain our goal of increasing enrollment for the fall semester," Killens added. "We encourage new students to

Killens noted that the college's low tuition – which has remained at $700 per semester for several years – is no doubt a factor in attracting students to the two-year school.

"Our mission is to serve students and by offering an affordable education for students of all ages we feel like we are accomplishing our goal," Killens said. "Scholarships and other financial assis-

WEEK OF June 11, 2007

ECCC

From Page 1A

ing into the college it increases the revenue for the community," Newton County Administrator Steve Seale said. "An educated population attracts industries with better paying jobs and that always helps."

The remaining orientation sessions are scheduled Saturday, June 16; Thursday, June 28; Wednesday, July 18; and Friday, Aug. 10.

Fall classes begin Thursday, Aug. 16.

Students who attended the June 1 session and their respective high schools from our area included the following:

Lake: Janice Marie Hollingsworth, Elizabeth Jenine Horton, Lacey Nicole Williams, Margie Lynn Black, Cody Allen Everett, Courtney Lucille Gammill, Hailey Lacole Harrison, Julie Marie Turnage, Emily Michele Wynne, Aaron Craft Snell and Yentl Carolette Brantley;

Newton County Academy: Amanda Michelle Hines, Hailey Christine Walker, Andrew Caleb Williams and Christopher Ace Merrell;

Newton County: Demetra D. Dawkins, O'Darrean Sedale Brown, Ashley Nicole May, Benjamin Tyler Wallace, Kristi Walters Ellis, Dennis Jay Anderson, Jr., Calli Leigh Cumberland, Kristen Leighanne Pillsbury, Zachary William Pillsbury, Racheal Marie Pritchett, Brittany Michelle Tyson and Austin Lee Crouthers;

Union: Monica M. Chesney, Daniel Hunter Johnson, Kylie Dates Rigdon, Krystle Elyse Wolverton, Candace Lynn Barton, Jessica Lynn Galloway, Jesse Dalton Brackin, Allison Christiana Leach, Tyler Cameron Hansford, Matthew Ryan Livingston and Pamela Kay Mangrum;

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

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WEEK OF June 11, 2007

Williamson enrolls in ECCC classes

Amanda Williamson, left, a graduate of Neshoba Central High School, was among the record 329 students who attended orientation activities held June 1 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Williamson is pictured with math instructor Sylvia Wright who provided assistance to the incoming freshman in planning her fall semester class schedule. Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Saturday, June 16; Thursday, June 28; Wednesday, July 18; and Friday, Aug. 10. Fall classes begin Thursday, August 16. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF June 11, 2007

Neshoba countians presented ECCC nursing degrees

These students from Neshoba County recently completed the two-year associate degree nursing program at East Central Community Collegeand were recognized for their accomplishment at the annual ADN pinning ceremony held on the Decatur campus. Seated from left are Jo Anne Jones, Kristen Taylor Clark and Brandi Durant, all of Philadelphia. Standing from left are Donnie Massey, Mary Kristen Clark, David Fryery and Meredith Perry, all of Philadelphia. Massey was among students who participated in the program and gave the invocation. Shannon Davis of Morton was program speaker and Zoie Hardy of Lawrence provided the closing prayer. Faculty member Cynthia Odom pinned the 45 graduates who comprise the "Class of 2007." Dr. Melanie Gilmore serves as dean of healthcare education. (EC Photo)

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CARTHAGINIAN _____	NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____	NEWTON RECORD _____
UNION APPEAL _____	MERIDIAN STAR _____
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____	CLARION-LEDGER _____
SPIRIT OF MORTON _____	OTHER _____

WEEK OF June 18, 2007

ECCC PHOTO

LATHAM REGISTERS FOR ECCC CLASSES AT RECENT ORIENTATION

Bethany Latham (left) of Morton was among the record 329 students who attended orientation activities held June 1 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Latham is pictured with English instructor Tanya Boler who provided assistance to the incoming freshman in planning her fall semester class schedule. Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Thursday, June 28; Wednesday, July 18; and Friday, August 10. Fall classes begin Thursday, August 16. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu.

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF June 18, 2007

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC STUDENTS RECEIVE MC SCHOLARSHIPS

These East Central Community College students received various transfer scholarships to Mississippi College in Clinton, which were presented during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 3 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Scholarship recipients include (seated from left) Jess Dilley of Forest, Loren Kennedy of Union, Daniel Pilgrim of Edinburg and Maggie McDill of Decatur; and (back row,, from left) Justin Harrell of Edinburg, Caleb Page of Newton, Warren Bowling of Florence and Josh Denson of Carthage.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF June 18, 2007

Lyle receives Williams scholarship

The Carthage Culture Club recently awarded the 2007 Vivian R. Williams Scholarship to Lauren Lyle, right. The $500 award was presented to Lauren by president Bonnie Beth Ingram, at the club's annual luncheon. She recently graduated from Carthage High School and plans to attend East Central Community College and Mississippi State University with a major in Secondary Education and a specialty in chemistry. Lauren is the daughter of Debra Buffington and Paul Lyle of Carthage.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF June 18 2007

ECCC announces Spring Semester Honor Roll

Students named to the 2007 spring semester honor roll, which includes those selected to the President's List, Dean's List and Honorable Mention List, have been announced at East Central Community College in Decatur, according to Donna Luke, Director of Admissions, Records and Research.

PRESIDENT'S LIST

Those named to the President's List, students with a 4.0 grade point average, include the following:

LOUISVILLE: Lara Renae Burt, Amber R. Eaves, Tiera Lashay Hughes, Ancarisa Frazier Macon and Sandra M. Whitman;

MACON: Katelynn Ann Thomas;

NOXAPATER: Jamie Lynn Collins and Chasidy Brooke Smith;

PRESTON: Valerie Brooke Johnson and Hannah Elyse Luke;

DEAN'S LIST

The Dean's List includes the following students who achieved a 3.5 or above grade point average:

LOUISVILLE: Nichole Alicia Ball, Steven Corey Blackwell, Trenton Glenn Cockrell, Michael Douglas Gregory, Kyrstin Faith Hall, Andreka Mechanel Henton, Kiel Martin Higginbotham, Jenna Reed Jackson, Kelly Anne Kight, Tyler Lee McCool, Kimberly Hannah Miles, Sarah Lisbeth Peeples, Giles Patrick Peterson, Carlos Maurice Rice, Zachary O'Neal Richardson, Kevin Loyd Roark, Brittany Gayle Rushing, Jeremy Jacob Saucier, Evelyn Ty Starks, Gwendolyn Lachelle Steele, Jacob Tyler Walker, Missy Nicole Williamson, Jessica Leigh Yarbrough and Mallory Jade Young;

MACON: Jordan Leigh Taylor;

NOXAPATER: Cody Ryan Coward and Kayla Dawn Coward;

HONORABLE MENTION LIST

The following students were named to the Honorable Mention List and earned a 3.0 or above grade point average:

LOUISVILLE: Melissa T. Ball, Gary Martin Boatner, Robert Payton Brown, Renardo Dequez Clark, Melissa Lanette Cobb, Shekeisha Lashunda Coleman, Joseph Cornelius, Drew Lane Cravens, Laerica Kenya Davenport, Brandon W. Fulton, Channing Matthew Harris, Casey Brianne Hill, Amanda Leigh Holdiness, Tequia Phonshay Hudson, Pam Denise Hughes, Brandon Joseph Jennings, Justin Kyle Jones, Tomlinson O'Neal Loving, Kimberly Gail McDill, Paul Sullivan McMillin, Carey Jarrod Miller, Cortney Kewana Miller, Joni Michele Mitchell, Johnathan Patrick Phillips, Evin Thomas Roark, Jessie Katherine Smith, Caylee Parks Sullivan, Justin Allen Vernon, Ian Dobson Whitney, Jessica Lane Williamson, Brandon Charles Womble and Britni Nicole Wright;

MACON: Anna Leigh Hailey;

NOXAPATER: Requaya Ann Eichelberger, Tiffany Lee Long, Mildred Arleen Partridge, Deffany Moore Phillips, Angela Kaye Price, Wakesha Wana Roberson and Mary Elizabeth Thorne;

PRESTON: Lakaisha L. Coleman, Brandi Danielle Durant and Amanda Lynn Warren.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

EASST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Dr. Lane to way 'adios' at ECCC

Special to The Record

After 40 years of teaching others foreign languages, Dr. Linda Lane will retire from East Central Community College at the end of the spring term and says she looks forward to new possibilities.

"There are certainly feelings of nostalgia as I transition from a full-time teaching career to retirement," she said. "However, I am looking forward to the freedom that retirement offers and am excited about the possibilities of new learning experiences and service opportunities that will come with this freedom."

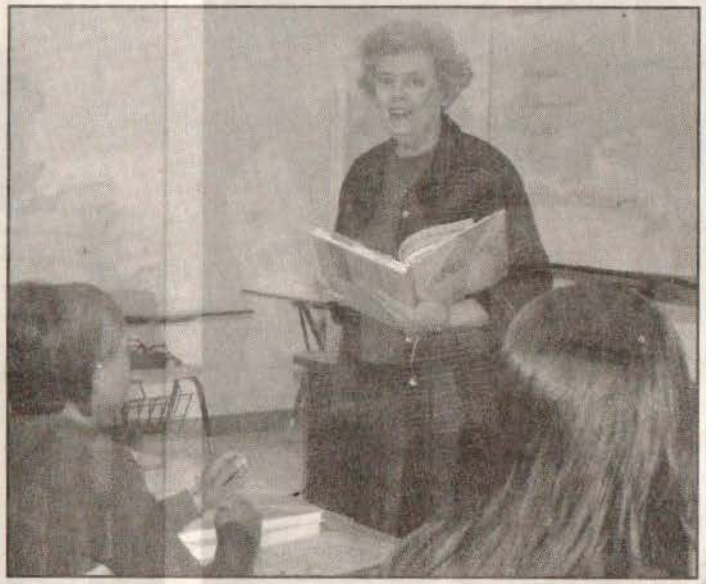
Dr. Lane has been employed at East Central since 1999 and has taught courses in Elementary Spanish I and II and Intermediate Spanish I and II. She has also served as faculty sponsor of the Scholars Bowl for six years. She was selected the college's "Academic Instructor of the Year" in 2000.

She said she has enjoyed working with the students both inside and outside the classroom.

"It has been fun to see their excitement as they learn to express themselves in another language," she said. "One of the most rewarding experiences was involving them in service learning through the ESL (English as a Second Language) program for Hispanics at the Trinity Mission in Forest."

Her biggest challenge, she said, has been getting students to enroll in Spanish, especially as freshmen.

"Many of them, especially those with little or no language background in high school, are afraid of studying a foreign language and are very reluctant to include a Spanish course in their programs of study," Dr. Lane said.



DR. LINDA LANE said it was fun to see the excitement on students' faces as they learn to express themselves in different languages.

Although she admits she won't miss grading papers, Dr. Lane said she will miss the camaraderie with her colleagues once she retires.

"The spirit of cooperation and support is very strong here and is what makes working at EC so enjoyable," she said.

Dr. Lane said that her career choice "can be attributed to genes."

"Both of my parents were teachers, as well as my paternal grandfather and my maternal grandmother," she said. "I was uncertain as to whether I wanted to teach when I began, but I soon discovered I liked it."

Had she not been a teacher, one might have seen her on TV.

"I would love to have covered international news for a cable news organization, such as CNN. When I graduated from college, such jobs were not available to women."

In her spare time, Dr. Lane said she loves to

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

WEEK OF June 25, 2007

ECCC Warrior Golf Classic raises nearly $9,000

from school reports

Area students are again the top prize winners in the sixth annual East Central Community College Warrior Golf Classic, as a record $8,963 was raised from the one-day event to fund scholarships for individuals residing in the college's district, which includes Leake, Scott, Neshoba, Newton and Winston counties.

Sponsored by the ECCC Alumni Association, the four-person scramble — held June 22 on The Oaks Course at the Dancing Rabbit Club — was termed "another success," according to tournament coordinator Stacey Hollingsworth, who serves as executive director for foundation and alumni relations at the College.

"The tournament was a great event for the ECCC Alumni Association, and we thank our loyal sponsors for their participation," Hollingsworth stated. "This fundraiser would not be successful without the help of our sponsors, volunteers and the hospitality of the staff at the Dancing Rabbit."

Hollingsworth noted that $21,000 in scholarship monies have been awarded to ECCC students since the tournament began in 2002.

Capturing championship flight honors in the 23-team field were Chad Harrison, Bo Welch and Shane Bishop, all of Union, and Steve Hampton of Quitman, who carded a 20-under par 52 and represented Nicole F. Harrison Family Dentistry in Union.

UBS Financial Services, Inc. in Meridian, finished second with a 54. Team members included Brian Temple, Barry Boatner and Clint Hales, all of Meridian, and Flint Tedder of Collinsville. The Citizens Bank of Philadelphia and Decatur team finished third with a 55. Team members included Ken Jones, Rusty Barnett, Randy McElhenney and Taylor McElhenney, all of Decatur.

Also competing in the championship flight were Entergy (Jonathan Powers, Trent Adams, Jonathan Nunn and Todd Yuille, all of Kosciusko), 56; Valley Services, Inc., of Jackson (George Ardelean and Jim Walt, both of Flowood, Bob Harper of Madison and Bruce Walt of Brandon), 57; Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians No. 2 (Kenny Tubby and Hayward Bell, both of Philadelphia, Regis Wilson of Carthage and Beasley Denson of Walnut Grove), 57; and Killens Chevrolet-Olds-Pontiac (Joel Nelson and Kurt Nelson, both of Hickory, Terry Sessums of Union and Kyle Killens of Decatur), 57.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

Alumni

WEEK OF June 25, 2007

ECCC PHOTO

RECEIVE ECCC ALUMNI MEMORIAL AWARDS

These students received Alumni Memorial awards during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 3 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Students and their respective awards include (from left) Rhonda May of Newton, Ruth Carr-Vincent Award for Academic Excellence in Non-Traditional Education; Amanda Schmidt of Carthage, Opal McMullan Dickerson Elementary Education; Raquel Hollingsworth of Forest, Alatha Chaney English Award; Robby Pierce of Lawrence, W. A. Coursey, Jr. Engineering; Dollye Packer of Lake, Sara Carr Deaton Business Technology; Angela Boatner of Philadelphia, Sue Yarbrough Fulgham Speech; and Jeffery Davis of Louisville, William S. Giffin Men's Intramural; and (back row, from left) Matt Fondren of West Point and Justin Hurdle of Forest, Homer F. Hunter Award for Athletic Managers; Daniel Russum of Pulaski, Danny Ray Killens Engineering; Steven Cullen of Carthage, Jack B. Mayo Phi Theta Kappa; Robyn Watts of Union, Dr. Edwin Miller Medical Services; Earnesto Green of Jackson, Howard Sessums Men's Basketball; Colby Amis of Decatur, Andrew F. Webb Football; and Julie Gaines of Philadelphia, Thomas W. Thrash Memorial. Not pictured are Daniel Colby Hawthorne of McNeill, Billy Wayne Baucum Award for Secondary Education; and Andrea Dubose of Hickory, Earline Wood Memorial for Women's Basketball.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF June 25, 2007

ECCC PHOTO

RECEIVE ECCC CAREER AWARDS

These students received career awards during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 3 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Students and their respective awards include (from left) Arthur Breakfield of Philadelphia, carpentry; Nicole White of Carthage, cosmetology; Brian Hillie of Lawrence, cabinetmaking; James Alton Embrey III of Chunky, welding and cutting and "Career Student of the Year;" and Audrey Neal of Forest, practical nursing.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF June 25, 2007

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC 'SPECIAL' AWARD RECIPIENTS

These students were among those receiving "special" awards during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 3 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Students and their respective awards include (seated, from left) Raquel Hollingsworth of Forest, secondary education; Jason Weatherford of Forest, S. Lebrun Hutchinson; Heather Bounds of Conehatta, Myrtle R. Hutchison Elementary Education; Delynn Agee of Choctaw, Margaret Mosal Award for Leadership; Beth Alexander of Little Rock, Ann Burkes Phi Theta Kappa; and Shannon Pilgrim of Carthage and Samara Beckham of Philadelphia, Mississippi Business Education Association Student Awards; and (back row, from left) Whitney Knight of Decatur, Alyne Simmons Recruitment Grant; Marie Hoy of Decatur, Spanish; Shannon Davis of Morton, Associate Degree Nursing Outstanding Achievement; David Harmond of Wiggins and Celeste Burt of Philadelphia, Roy Pete Award for Soccer; Earnesto Green of Jackson, Anthony Coleman Men's Basketball; and Colby Amis of Decatur, Loren Kennedy of Union and Maggie McDill of Decatur, Walter Arno Vincent Award for Academic Excellence in Athletics.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF June 25, 2007

ECCC PHOTO

RECEIVE ECCC 'SPECIAL' AWARDS

These students received "special" awards during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 3 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Students and their respective awards include (seated, from left) Andy Anderson of Morton, The Tom Tom student newpaper; Beth Alexander of Little Rock, ECCC Players; Angela Boatner of Philadelphia, concert choir; Amber Griffin of Carthage and Jessica Cager of Union, gospel choir; and Melissa Swanner of Chunky and Stephanie Swanner of Little Rock, EC environmental club; and (back row, from left) Robyn Watts of Union, Richard Fisher Organic Chemistry; Leslie Nash of Union, Philadelphia-Neshoba County Arts Council; Caitlin Lee Harper of Decatur, Kappa Kappa Iota; Heath Street of Lake, Valerie Gatewood of Forest and Brittney Harper of Meridian, freshman mathematics; and Robby Pierce of Lawrence and Steven Cullen of Carthage, sophomore mathematics. Not pictured are Ryan McMillan of Hickory, citizenship; and Anthony Williams of Decatur, Mississippi Community College Creative Writing Association.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

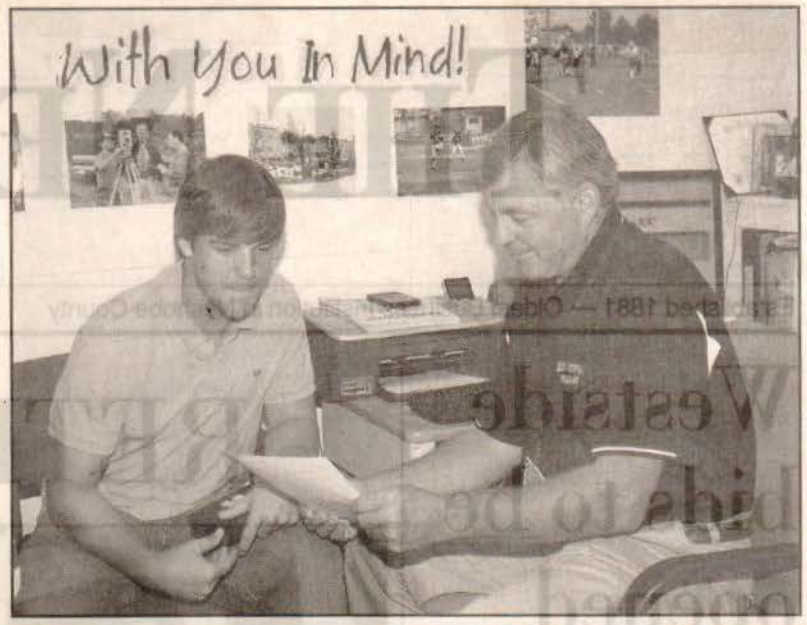
NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF June 25, 2007



Patterson prepares for 'EC experience'

Neshoba Central High School graduate Patrick Patterson, left, was among area students who attended orientation activities held June 16 at East Central Community College in Decatur. He is shown with Ricky Harrison, drafting and design technology instructor, who provided assistance to the incoming freshman in planning his class schedule for the fall semester. Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Thursday, June 28; Wednesday, July 18; and Friday, Aug. 10. Fall classes begin Thursday, Aug. 16. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address isjkillens@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF June 25, 2007

Selecting EC classes

Selecting their fall semester class schedules in preparing to attend East Central Community College are (from left) Andrew Jenkins, a graduate of Carthage High School, and Leake Academy product Julie Wilbanks, who were among area students who attended the June 16 orientation session held on the Decatur campus. The incoming ECCC students are shown receiving assistance in planning their class schedules from Michael Alexander, academic counselor. Fall classes begin Thursday, Aug. 16. Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Thursday, June 28; Wednesday, July 18; and Friday, Aug. 10. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

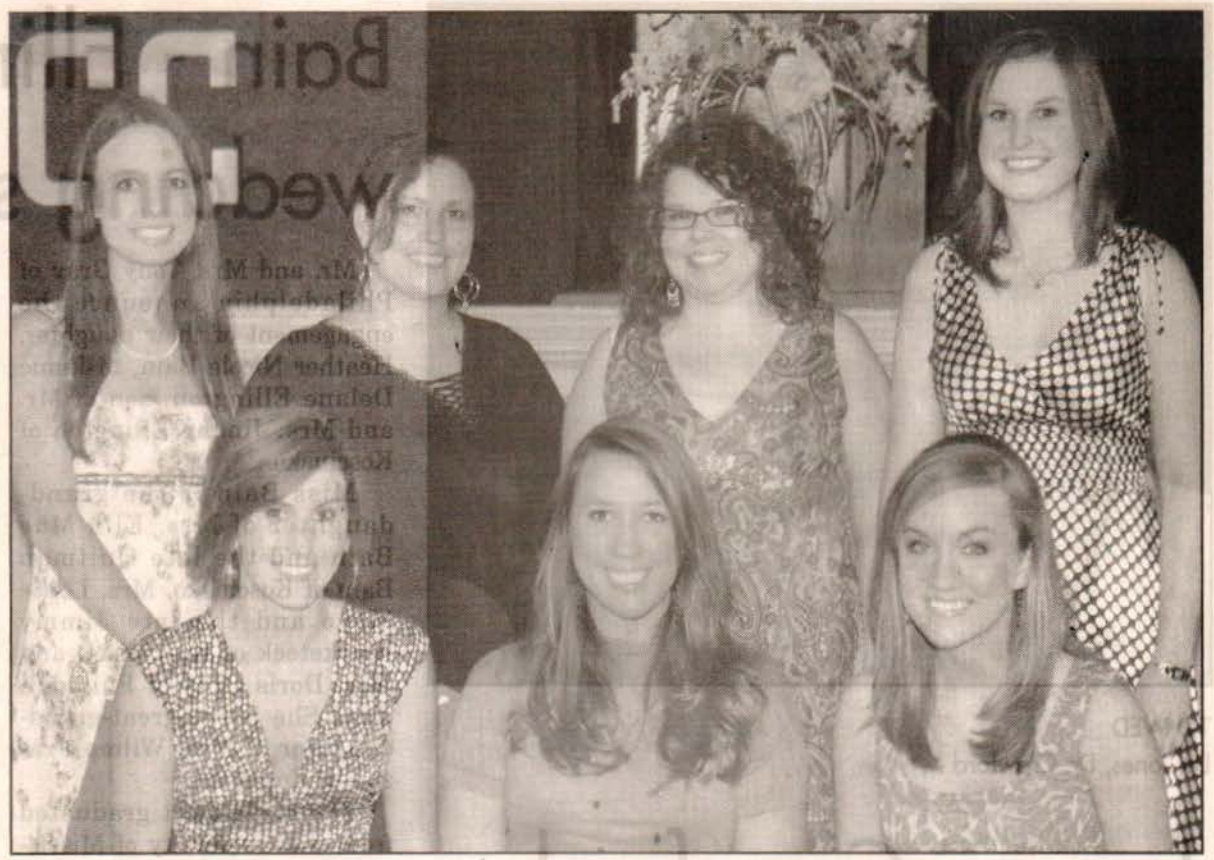
MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

Scholarships

WEEK OF June 25, 2007



MUW scholarship winners

East Central Community College students received various transfer scholarships to Mississippi University for Women, which were presented during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Scholarship recipients include (seated, from left) Sarah James, Carthage, Briana Stinson, Philadelphia, and Paige Randolph, Newton; and (back row, from left) Kristian Swearingen and Angela Boatner, both of Philadelphia; Jenna Jackson, Louisville, and Rachel McElhenney, Decatur.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 2, 2007

Chancellor credits EC for his success

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

Van Chancellor has enjoyed tremendous success at every level of coaching basketball... high school, college, and professional.

Yet he credits his two years at East Central Junior College for making the many achievements he has attained possible.

Van Chancellor

"Without East Central Junior College, I would have never survived," Chancellor said while touring Disney World last weekend. "I went to East Central and, thank God, Denver Brackeen gave me a basketball scholarship or I couldn't have afforded to go.

"It was a great time for me there. As I think back, that's two of the most enjoyable years I've had in my life.

"That prepared me, not only to coach but prepared me for life. Without East Central, Van Chancellor wouldn't be where he is today, I can guarantee you that.

"I loved my days there. I made so many friends. Still to this day, I've got a lot of friends that I made there. I moved to Baton Rouge and a boy that I went to school with shows up and he's my insurance agent.

"I made a lot of friends there and they've lasted me a lifetime. It was just a wonderful experience there."

Chancellor joins Mack Fanning, Jack French, Mike Justice, and Norris Ashley as the Class of 2007 inductees into the Mississippi Association of Coaches Hall of Fame in Jackson Friday night.

"I started out at Noxapater High School and in my own heart, I've always considered myself a high school coach," Chancellor said. "I've been very lucky.

"I've got a lot of great, warm feelings for the Coaches' Association and especially this group of people I'm going in with. I've got a little connection with them all, except for the softball coach (Mack Fanning).

"I recruited Norris Ashley's players when I was at Ole Miss. Mike Justice coached at my hometown in Louisville for a while, and I taught Jack French at one time at Noxapater.

"It's truly a great honor. I'm excited about it."

Earlier this year, Chancellor resigned from the WNBA's Houston Comets, a team he led to that league's first four championships from 1997-2000.

It didn't take him long to resurface as women's basketball coach at LSU.

Continued on B4...
See Chancellor...

Chancellor...

Continued from B3...

"At the end of 10 years, I just felt like I wanted to go a new direction," said Chancellor, a native of Nanih Waiya.

In that 10-year span, the Comets went 211-111 and made nine playoff appearances. He was named WNBA Coach of the Year three times.

He led the U.S. Olympic team to the gold medal in Athens in 2004 and has posted a 38-0 mark in International competition as head coach of the United States Olympic Team.

Chancellor coached Ole Miss for 19 seasons, guiding the Lady Rebels to a 439-154 record and 14 NCAA tournaments. He ranks 14th in career winning percentage among women's college coaches.

Under Chancellor, Ole Miss won at least 20 games 15 times. He was named SEC Coach of the Year three times.

Chancellor was previously inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame and the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame.

Yet it all began with two years as a member of ECJC's basketball team. Known for his quick wit, Chancellor never says it was his athletic skills that got him high praise at the Decatur school. If anything, it was the opposite.

"I was just recently voted the greatest bench warmer in East Central Junior College history," Chancellor quipped. "I'm the 12th man on an 11-man team. But I learned."

He transferred to Mississippi State and during his senior year at MSU served as boys' basketball team at Noxapater High School. He went on to coach boys' and girls' basketball at Horn Lake High School and Harrison Central High School prior to becoming women's basketball coach at Ole Miss.

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 2 2007
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New science building in EC budget

- No increases in tuition, taxes

By Bill Graham
Appeal News Editor

East Central Community College President Dr. Phil Sutphin brought his budget proposal to the Newton County Board of Supervisors last week, and the good news is there will be no increase in taxes or tuition.

The better news: students will have a new science building and broader access to class material via the Internet.

Construction on the science complex, named after science instructor Ron Davis, who passed away last year, will begin next May.

The building will house laboratories; in a couple of years, Sutphin said he hopes to get state bond money to renovate Cross Hall into classrooms for the science building.

"The one we've got is maxed out," he said. "We can't do much more faculty-wise, because of the lack of space. (The new building) is going to help us tremendously."

"Another important thing that's happening for us is a program called Blackboard, he said. "It's a course management tool." The college has used Blackboard for several years for online courses, said Sutphin, but now the college has purchased licenses for the software, which will allow its use in every classroom.

"Every class taught at East Central has the potential to have an online component," he told the board. Students will be able to get course material online, and instructors can use Blackboard to supplement in-class instruction.

Sutphin said teachers are now being trained to use Blackboard.

The president also reviewed economic data showing the economic impact of EC students returning to Newton County. He estimates that impact to be about $5,200 per student. "I calculated about 3 million dollars in economic benefits to the county" from students who return here after completing a higher degree.

"With a $334,000 investment, you get a return of 3 million dollars, based on the studies," he told the board.

Students aren't the only ones who have something to look forward to-there's also a raise for teachers, with state funding.

Continued on page 6, see College...

ECCC President Dr. Phil Sutphin reviews the college's 2007-08 budget with the Board of Supervisors Thursday morning.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____
UNION APPEAL ✓
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____
SPIRIT OF MORTON _____
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____
NEWTON RECORD _____
MERIDIAN STAR _____
CLARION-LEDGER _____
OTHER _____

July 2, 2007

College...

Continued from page 1A

"Half of it was bringing our teacher's salaries up... we were able to get a 5% increase."

Gas and energy prices have gone up substantially, and that takes up the remainder of the budge, according to Sutphin.

The college's proposal to the board-2.25 mills for maintenance and support, and 1.5 mills for enlargement, improvement, and repairs- is the same amount requested in last year's budget.

Full-time tuition will remain at $700 per semester.

Over the past year, the college has seen construction of a new student union and a new bookstore, which, said Sutphin, "have added significantly to our ability to serve students."

"We're about out of the woods on Katrina," Sutphin also said. The August 2005 hurricane caused an estimated $600,000 to the Decatur campus.

Damage to the football field bleachers was repaired with $113,000 in FEMA money.

WEEK OF July 2, 2007

Winston officials visit

Winston County supervisors (seated from left) Lamar Clark (District Five) and Jerry Estes (District One) were special luncheon guests at the May meeting of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees held on the Decatur campus. Pictured with the county officials are Winston County trustees (standing from left) Leo Parker of Noxapater, and Patsy Clark and Harry Kemp, superintendent of the Louisville Municipal School District, both of Louisville.

APPEARED IN:

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

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WEEK OF July 9
cont'd →

Warrior Golf Classic nets nearly $9,000

from school reports

Area students are again the top prize winners in the sixth annual East Central Community College Warrior Golf Classic, as a record $8,963 was raised from the one-day event to fund scholarships for individuals residing in the college's district, which includes Leake, Scott, Neshoba, Newton, and Winston counties.

Sponsored by the ECCC Alumni Association, the four-person scramble — held June 22 on The Oaks Course at the Dancing Rabbit Club in Choctaw — was termed "another success," according to tournament coordinator Stacey Hollingsworth, who serves as executive director for foundation and alumni relations at the College.

"The tournament was a great event for the ECCC Alumni Association, and we thank our loyal sponsors for their participation," Hollingsworth said. "This fundraiser would not be successful without the help of our sponsors, volunteers, and the hospitality of the staff at the Dancing Rabbit."

Hollingsworth noted that $21,000 in scholarship monies have been awarded to ECCC students since the tournament began in 2002.

Capturing championship flight honors in the 23-team field were Chad Harrison, Bo Welch, and Shayne Bishop, all of Union, and Steve Hampton of Quitman, who carded a 20-under par 52 and represented Nicole F. Harrison Family Dentistry in Union.

UBS Financial Services, Inc. in Meridian, finished second with a 54. Team members included Brian Temple, Barry Boatner, and Clint Hales, all of Meridian, and Flint Tedder of Collinsville.

The Citizens Bank of Philadelphia and Decatur team finished third with a 55. Team members included Ken Jones, Rusty Barnett, Randy McElhenney, and Taylor McElhenney, all of Decatur.

Also competing in the championship flight were Entergy (Jonathan Powers, Trent Adams, Jonathan Nunn, and Todd Yuille, all of Kosciusko), 56; Valley Services, Inc., of Jackson (George Ardelean and Jim Walt, both of Flowood, Bob Harper of Madison and Bruce Walt of Brandon), 57; Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians No. 2 (Kenny Tubby and Hayward Bell, both of Philadelphia, Regis Wilson of

Shayne Bishop (right) of Union receives congratulations from East Central Community College President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin after winning the "Drive the Middle Contest" in the sixth annual ECCC Warrior Golf Classic held at the Dancing Rabbit Golf Club in Choctaw. The contest is sponsored by Birdies for Charity in Jackson. Bishop was a member of the Nicole F. Harrison Family Dentistry team from Union, which won the four-person scramble with a 20 under par 52 on The Oaks Course, site of this year's tournament.

ECCC photo

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July 9, 2007

Taking top honors in the sixth annual East Central Community College Warrior Golf Classic held at the Dancing Rabbit Golf Club in Choctaw are (second from left) Chad Harrison of Union, Steve Hampton of Quitman, and Bo Welch and Shayne Bishop, both of Union, who blistered The Oaks Course with a 20-under par 52. The winning team is shown with ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin following the awards ceremony. Twenty-three teams participated in the one-day event, which raised almost $9,000 for student scholarships.

ECCC photo

Carthage and Beasley Denson of Walnut Grove), 57; and Killens Chevrolet-Olds-Pontiac (Joel Nelson and Kurt Nelson, both of Hickory, Terry Sessums of Union and Kyle Killens of Decatur), 57.

Corporate Division Winners

Citizens Bank took top honors in the corporate division. Entergy finished second and Killens Chevrolet-Olds-Pontiac in Newton placed third.

First Flight

Howard Computers won the second flight title with a 59. Team members were Rusty Thoms of Madison, Mark Power of Brandon, Richard Lee of Jackson, and Craig Robertson of Ridgeland.

Finishing in second place with a 59 was the Mississippi Band of Choctaws Indians No. 1, whose team included Jason Grisham, Kevin Grisham, and Cyrus Ben, all of Choctaw, and Grant Ben of Philadelphia.

Community Bank placed third with a 60. Team members included Tommy Smith, Bert Atkison and Randy Gibson, all of Forest, and Al Watts of Jackson.

Second Flight

Tyson Foods, Inc, of Forest and Carthage won third flight honors with a 65. Team members included Tracy Shannon and Eddie McDill, both of Forest, and Tommy Waters and Bryan Manley, both of Brandon.

Glynn Griffing and Associates of Jackson finished runners-up with a 65. Team members were Glynn Griffing of Jackson, Milton Walker of Brandon and Harlan Stanley of Florence.

Finishing third was Applied GEO Technologies, Inc., of Choctaw, which shot a 66 and included team members Tim Nelson of Choctaw, and Mike Miller, Kenny Hillman and David Whitaker, all of Philadelphia.

Also receiving special recognition were Billy Mack Stuart of Carthage, who recorded a hole-in-one on No. 17, a 135-yard par-three and received an IPOD from Killens Chevrolet-Olds-Pontiac; Shayne Bishop of Union, who won the "Drive the Middle Contest" on hole No. 18, sponsored by Birdies for Charity in Jackson; and Kenneth Jones of Decatur, who won the La-Z-Boy chair and ottoman provided by La-Z-Boy South, Inc. in Newton.

WEEK OF Aug. 13

Fowler to teach English at EC

Pamela Burnett Fowler has joined the English faculty at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, College president.

Fowler was previously employed at Neshoba Central High School in Philadelphia, where she served since 2005 as physical education instructor and girls' basketball coach.

Prior to her employment at Neshoba Central, Fowler served an eight-year stint as English instructor and women's softball coach at East Mississippi Community College in Scooba.

She is also a former English instructor and girls' basketball coach at Union and Lake high schools.

A graduate of Union High School, Fowler holds an associate's degree from Meridian Community College, a bachelor's degree in English from Millsaps College, and a master's degree in education from Mississippi State University.

She is married to Charly Fowler and they reside in Philadelphia.

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WEEK OF Aug. 13

Tidwell named EC Child Care Attendant

Megan Tidwell of Union was recently chosen Child Care Attendant at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, ECCC president.

Tidwell received an associate's degree in Early Childhood Education from ECCC in 2007. The Dean's List scholar is also the 2007 recipient of the program's outstanding student award.

She is a member of Neshoba Baptist Church.

Tidwell is married to Jamie Parker of Union. They have a daughter, Kallie Kate Parker.

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WEEK OF Aug. 13

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Cole is EC Health Care Assistant Instructor

Theresa Cole of Hickory was recently selected Health Care Assistant instructor at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, College president.

Cole, a registered nurse, was previously employed by the Woman's Group of Meridian, a position she has held since August 1999. She has also held nursing positions at Jeff Anderson Regional Medical Center in Meridian, Newton Regional Hospital and Laurel Wood Center in Meridian. In all, she has 14 years experience in the nursing field.

A graduate of Meridian High School, Cole attended Tougaloo College prior to earning an associate's degree in nursing from Meridian Community College. In addition to her formal training, Cole has completed training courses in the Management of Diabetic Patients, Cardiac Dysrhythmias, Management of Hypertensive Patients, Perimenopausal and Menopausal Syndrome, and Pregnancy Induced Hypertension/HELLP syndrome.

She is married to the Rev. Jason Cole, pastor of Mt. Moriah M.B. Church in Newton. They have two children.

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WEEK OF Aug. 13

ECCC adds Jones, Watson to staff

from school reports

Kyle Watson and Brian Jones have joined the football coaching staff at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Warrior athletic director/head football coach Terry Underwood.

Watson, who serves as offensive line coach, was a standout offensive lineman on Underwood's 1998 and 1999 squads. He helped lead the 1999 team to an 8-3 mark and earned first-team All-State honors following the successful campaign, which included an appearance in the state playoffs. He continued his athletic career at Mississippi State University where he was a back-up center.

He was previously employed at Newton County High School, where he served since 2004 as offensive line coach, head track coach and science instructor.

He is also a former graduate assistant at MSU under head coach Sylvester Croom.

Watson is a 1998 graduate of Neshoba Central High School and holds bachelor and master's degrees in physical education from MSU.

He is married to the former Huellen Nutt of Morton, who serves as ECCC's cheerleader sponsor. They have a son, Austin.

Jones, also a former Warrior standout, has returned to the coaching staff and will primarily be responsible for coaching defensive linemen. He will also serve as assistant strength and conditioning coach.

Jones is a former athletic director/head football coach at Heidelberg Academy, where he led the 2004 and 2005 squads to an overall 10-9 mark. The 2005 team finished with an 8-2 record.

Jones previously served on the Warrior staff from January 2004 to July of that year, when he took over the Heidelberg Academy football program. His ECCC duties included serving as running backs coach and providing assistance in coordinating the strength and conditioning program.

Jones began his coaching career at Delta State University, where he served as assistant defensive line coach and helped coordinate the strength and conditioning program from January 2002 to December 2003.

Jones was a member of the 2000 Delta State football squad, which won the NCAA Division II National Championship. He served as team captain of the 2001 team and received the hustle award the same year.

He was an honorable mention All-State selection on ECCC's 1999 squad, which advanced to state playoffs and finished with an 8-3 record. Jones was also a member of the 1998 team.

Jones is a graduate of Victoria (Texas) High School, where he was an honorable mention All-State linebacker in 1996. He helped lead Victoria to the District 29-5A championship and a berth in the regional finals en route to a 9-1-1 record.

He holds a bachelor degree in sports management from DSU and an associate's degree in liberal arts from ECCC.

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WEEK OF Aug. 20

Luke Named ECCC ADN Instructor

Lori Luke of Newton has joined the Associate Degree Nursing faculty at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Luke served the previous five years as one of the College's practical nursing instructors. She was recognized as ECCC's Career and Technology Instructor of the Year in 2005. She is a former registered nurse at Lackey Memorial Hospital in Forest and Riley Hospital in Meridian. She also previously served as school nurse for Newton Public Schools. She has been involved in various health-related organizations including SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions), the Mississippi Diabetes Association and the Mississippi School Nurse Association. She is a member of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing. A Newton High School graduate, Luke holds an associate's degree from ECCC, a bachelor's degree in nursing from the University of Southern Mississippi and a master's degree in nursing from Alcorn State University.

She is married to Keith Luke. They have two daughters, Morgan and Maggie.

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WEEK OF Aug. 20

Mann named ECCC interim healthcare dean

Betsy L. Mann has been named interim dean of healthcare education at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Dr. Phi A. Sutphin, ECCC president.

Mann, who has served as a member of the College's associate degree nursing faculty since 2002, will now also be responsible for all of ECCC's health-related programs, which in addition to the ADN program includes practical nursing, surgical technology, emergency medical technology and the recently added healthcare assistant program.

She is the District 15 immediate past president of the Mississippi Nurses' Association and serves as ECCC's ambassador to the National League of Nursing. She also holds membership in the American Nurses' Association, the National Organization of Associate Degree Nursing, the Mississippi Organization of Associate Degree Nursing, and Theta Beta Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing.

Betsy L. Mann

A graduate of Neshoba Central High School, Mann holds an associate's degree in nursing from Meridian Community College and received bachelor and master's degrees in nursing from the University of Mississippi Medical Center.

She is married to Dr. John Mann and they reside in Philadelphia.

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

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WEEK OF Aug. 20

East Mississippi Business Journal

Wade Hollingsworth Named ECCC Information Technology Counselor

Wade Hollingsworth of Meridian has joined the staff at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

Hollingsworth, a recent addition to the College's Small Business Development Center, serves as the new information technology counselor for the Neshoba Business Enterprise Center located in the Philadelphia-Neshoba County Industrial Park.

The SBDC provides assistance in operating the Center, which serves as an incubator designed to provide office, manufacturing and/or warehouse space to start-up businesses. The Center is operated under the Neshoba Community Development Partnership.

The new staff member previously served as an application developer for the Fortune 500 consulting firm BearingPoint, Inc., at the company's Global Development Center in Hattiesburg. He is also a former part-time Web developer/office assistant for Mar-Comm, Inc. in Newton, and provides private Web work through his own business.

A graduate of Clarkdale High School, Hollingsworth holds an associate's degree in computer programming technology from ECCC. He is married to the former Amy Auton of Meridian and they have an infant son, Eli.

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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OTHER East MS Business Journal

WEEK OF Aug. 20

Emmons Selected ECCC Music Instructor

Natalie Duncan Emmons of Lake has joined the music faculty at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, ECCC president.

Emmons, who serves as keyboard instructor, previously served as a graduate assistant in the music department at Mississippi College in Clinton.

She also serves as music director at Salem Baptist Church in Lake and is a former staff musician at Antioch Baptist Church in Pelahatchie.

In addition, she has taught private keyboard lessons for many years, most recently as part of the music program at Sebastopol Attendance Center.

Emmons also has several significant awards and accomplishments related to the music field. She is a songwriter with Heartland Entertainment in Nashville, TN, and is a recording artist with Son Sounds Records in Gastonia, NC. She twice received the Mary Nelson Piano Award at Mississippi College, and is the only two-time winner of the NQC Talent Search competition.

Emmons

A Lake native, Emmons is a 2003 graduate of ECCC, where she was piano accompanist for the musical "Footloose" and served as assistant accompanist for the EC Chorale. She also served as Chorale president and received the ECCC Concert Choir award. In addition, she was a member of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges.

Emmons continued her education at Mississippi College, receiving bachelor and master's degrees in music.

She is married to Joey Emmons and has a daughter, Tallie Johnston.

Emmons is the daughter of the Rev. Larry and Pequita Duncan of Lake.

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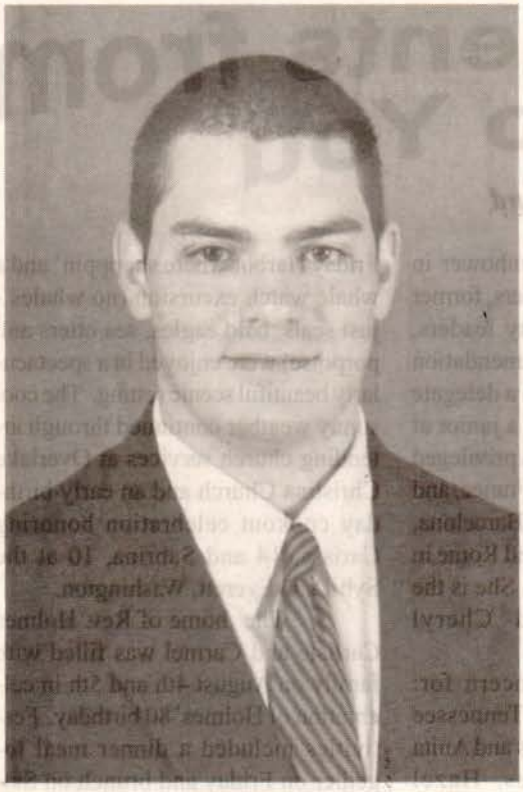
WEEK OF Aug 20



BRIAN JONES

Jones Returns To ECCC Football Coaching Staff

Brian Jones has returned to the football coaching staff at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Terry Underwood, athletic director/head football coach.

Jones, who is also a former Warrior football standout, will primarily be responsible for coaching defensive linemen. He will also serve as assistant strength and conditioning coach.

Jones is a former athletic director/head football coach at Heidelberg Academy, where he led the 2004 and 2005 squads to an overall 10-9 mark. The 2005 team finished with an 8-2 record.

Jones previously served on the Warrior staff from January 2004 to July of that year, when he took over the Heidelberg Academy football program. His ECCC duties included serving as running backs coach and providing assistance in coordinating the strength and conditioning program.

He began his coaching career at Delta State University, where he served as assistant defensive line coach and helped coordinate the strength and conditioning program from January 2002 to December 2003.

Jones was a member of the 2000 Delta State football squad, which won the NJCAA Division II National Championship. He served as team captain of the 2001 team and received the hustle award the same year.

He was an honorable mention All-State selection on ECCC's 1999 squad, which advanced to state playoffs under current head coach Terry Underwood and finished with an 8-3 record. Jones was also a member of the 1998 team.

Jones is a graduate of Victoria (Texas) High School, where he was an honorable mention All-State linebacker in 1996. He helped lead Victoria to the District 29-5A championship and a berth in the regional finals en route to a 9-1-1 record.

He holds a bachelor degree in sports management from DSU and an associate's degree in liberal arts from ECCC.

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WEEK OF Aug. 27

Watson named ECCC assistant

Kyle Watson has joined the football coaching staff at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Warrior athletic director/head football coach Terry Underwood.

Watson, who serves as offensive line coach, was a standout offensive lineman on Coach Underwood's 1998 and 1999 squads. He helped lead the 1999 team to an 8-3 mark and earned first-team All-State honors following the successful campaign, which included an appearance in the state playoffs. He continued his athletic career at Mississippi State University where he was a back-up center.

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Name

He was previously employed at Newton County High School, where he served since 2004 as offensive line coach, head track coach and science instructor.

He is also a former graduate assistant at MSU under head coach Sylvester Croom.

Watson is a 1998 graduate of Neshoba Central High School and holds bachelor and master's degrees in physical education from MSU.

He is married to the former Huellen Nutt of Morton, who serves as the College's cheerleader sponsor. They have a son, Austin.

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WEEK OF Aug. 27

The Union Appeal • Union, Mississippi • Wednesday, Au

Neshoba Business Enterprise Center Has Grand Opening.. "Here to Help You Grow" is the motto of the new Neshoba Business Enterprise Center that had its grand opening on August 22. The Center serves as an incubator designed to provide office space, manufacturing and/or warehouse space to start-up businesses for up to three years. The East Central Community College Small Business Development Center's Director, Ronnie Westbrook (standing right) will be available each Tuesday at the Center; and Wade Hollingsworth, Business Technology Counselor (seated) will be available in his office at the Center for technical support for all tenants and other small business clients within the five-county district. David Vowell (standing left) is the President of the Community Development Partnership in Philadelphia. For more information, contact Westbrook, Phone 601-635-6297; Hollingsworth, Phone 601-389-0803; or Vowell, Phone 601-656-1000. The email address is rwestbrook@eccc.edu <mailto:rwestbrook@eccc.edu> , whollingsworth@eccc.edu <mailto:whollingsworth@eccc.edu> , or dvowell@bellsouth.net <mailto:dvowell@bellsouth.net> .

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UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

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WEEK OF Aug 27

ECCC PHOTO

RAYTHEON ASSISTS ECCC PROGRAM

The electronic technology department at East Central Community College in Decatur recently received some new equipment following a contribution from Raytheon Systems, Inc. in Forest. Raytheon officials presented the ECCC technical program with a spectrum analyzer, a device used to examine the spectral composition of some electrical, acoustic or optical waveforms. Shown during the presentation are (from left) ECCC officials Wayne Eason, dean of career-technical education and Jim Clark, electronic technology instructor; and Raytheon representatives Robin Brumfield, staff engineer; Dewayne Delaet, technician manager; and Bill Dykeman, test engineering operations manager.

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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WEEK OF Sept 3/07

ECCC PHOTO

FARRIS RECOGNIZED FOR ECCC SERVICE

Rebecca Farris (center) of Morton was recently honored for 20 years service as a member of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees. Farris, shown with Board Chairman Prentice Copeland (left) of Philadelphia and ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, was among trustees recognized for service at the annual meeting of the Mississippi Community and Junior College Trustees Association held earlier this summer in Biloxi.

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WEEK OF Sept. 10/07

EC to honor Baileys at home opener

East Central Community College in Decatur will honor a local couple for their generous contribution to fund the new entrance to the football stadium and the Diamond Warrior baseball team will be recognized for winning the 2007 MACJC State Championship during ceremonies scheduled Thursday, September 13 at East Central's home football opener with Jones County Junior College.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony to officially showcase the new entrance to Bill and Louise Bailey Stadium is set for 5:30 p.m. A reception immediately follows the program. The public is invited to attend.

The Baileys, owners of Decatur Telephone Company, contributed $100,000 for the project, which also included various other improvements made to the facility. An additional $80,000 came from other alumni and friends of the College. Some of the additional funding came from the purchase of donor bricks which are prominently displayed in the entrance.

Members of the state champion Diamond Warrior squad will gather at the College pavilion for a meal and ring ceremony during pre-game activities.

The Baileys and Diamond Warriors will also be recognized during halftime ceremonies. The Warrior baseball team is led by Neal Holliman, who was named MACJC Division II Baseball Coach of the Year following the championship season, and assistants Michael Avalon and Roberto Martinez.

Kickoff for the ECCC/Jones match-up – which features two undefeated squads with 2-0 records - is set for 6:30 p.m. The contest is also the MAJCC South Division opener for both squads.

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WEEK OF Sept. 17/07

ECCC hosting 5K, 1-mile walk for homecoming

A 5K run and one-mile walk officially begin homecoming activities scheduled Saturday, Oct. 13, at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Registration gets under way at 7 a.m. at the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. The race starts at 7:30 a.m. and the mile walk begins at approximately 8:15 a.m.

Awards will be presented to the overall male and female winner and winners in each age division.

Cost is $12 per participant for those who sign up by Friday, Sept. 28. A $15 fee is applied for late registration.

For more information contact Stacey Hollingsworth at 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 327.

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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WEEK OF Sept. 24/07

Ribbon cutting held for new ECCC facility

Bill and Louise Bailey perform ribbon-cutting duties to officially open the new entrance to the football stadium at East Central Community College in Decatur prior to the Warriors' home opener Sept. 13 with Jones County Junior College. The stadium was recently named for the Baileys who contributed $100,000 for the construction project and other improvements made at the stadium. An additional $80,000 was raised from other alumni and friends of ECCC. The Baileys own the Decatur Telephone Company and are long-time supporters of the college. Also pictured during the ceremony, which was held inside the facility due to the threat of inclement weather, are (from left) ECCC Board of Trustees Chairman Prentice Copeland of Philadelphia; Mike and Dr. Esther Bailey Smith and their daughter, Hannah; and ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF Sept. 24/07

ECCC's ABE/GED instructors for Neshoba County

Teaching Adult Basic Education and GED-Preparation courses in Neshoba County for East Central Community College's Adult and Continuing Education program are (from left) Virginia Kight of Philadelphia, Susan Hisaw of Louisville, and June Fulton and Barbara Booker, both of Philadelphia. Classes are held at the Philadelphia/Neshoba County Career-Technical Center. For more information contact the ECCC Office of Adult and Continuing Education, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 279. (EC Photo)

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

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WEEK OF Sept. 24/07

ECCC PHOTO

LOCAL ECCCS ABE/GED INSTRUCTORS

Teaching Adult Basic Education and GED-Preparation courses in Scott County for East Central Community College's Adult and Continuing Education program are (from left) Teresa Lovett, Zann Nutt and Carol Greer, all of Morton. Classes are held at the Forest/Scott County Career and Technology Center. For more information contact the ECCC Office of Adult and Continuing Education in Decatur, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free,1-877-462-3222, ext. 279.

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF Sept. 24/07

eal • Union, Mississippi • Wednesday, September 26, 2007

ECCC's ABE/GED Instructors for Newton County... Teaching Adult Basic Education and GED-Preparation courses in Newton County for East Central Community College's Adult and Continuing Education program are (from left) Larry Harms of Decatur, Ed McGowan of Lawrence, and Mary and Bryan Burt of Newton. Not pictured is Linda Kirtley of Decatur. Classes are held in Ethridge Hall on ECCC's South campus. For more information contact the ECCC Office of Adult and Continuing Education, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 279. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Sept. 24/07

Technology

ECCC implementing 'Blackboard' course management this year

ECOnline is the new title for traditional classes using the Blackboard learning platform, according to Dr. Chris Jenkins, Dean of Distance Learning.

"With this computer/internet-based platform, instructors and students have access to their courses at any time and from any computer with internet access," he said. Dr. Jenkins introduced the use of the platform at a pre-semester faculty workshop held in August.

Jenkins added, "Instructors are implementing Blackboard in at least one of their traditional classes this semester. Blackboard allows the students to get announcements and assignments, communicate with the instructor and classmates, participate in discussion boards and chat rooms, and even take tests. Students can also submit their assignments through Blackboard."

Dr. Lavina Sparkman, Vice President for Instruction said of the Blackboard initiative, "Blackboard's course management tool will enhance teaching and learning for East Central students, who will be able to access their class notes, syllabi and assignments any time or place from their computer. They will also be able to

See ECCC, page 7C

The Neshoba Democrat, Philadelphia, Miss., September 26, 2007, 7C

ECCC

Continued from page 5C

contact their instructors concerning any class assignments or concerns they might have in their class. This is a win-win situation for all involved."

East Central is not the only community/junior college using this platform. All of the community/junior colleges are using Blackboard as part of a state-wide initiative. This major project was partially funded by the legislature and the individual colleges.

College President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin said, "Computerized access to teaching and learning strategies is a reality at East Central. After evaluating distance learning in Mississippi over the last several years and seeking proposals from several vendors, the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges accepted the proposal of Blackboard for enhancements to the State's distance learning initiative and for course management at the local institutions in the traditional classes offered at each college."

The Mississippi Virtual Community College (MSVCC) is part of this initiative and Jenkins said online classes are "going strong and that East Central has over a thousand enrollments for the Fall 2007 semester."

For more information on Blackboard or online courses, visit the Office of Distance Learning located in the Smith Student Union or contact them at 601-635-6322 or 601-635-6428. The email address is cjenkins@eccc.edu.

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Sept. 24/07
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

Hannah joins other basketball greats in ECCC

From press reports

After not playing basketball for two years but still having the "passion" to play on the college level, Joy Eichelberger-Hannah thought her "dream" would never be realized.

She was once a highly recruited high school player until she left the game prior to her senior season at Louisville High School. A year after her high school graduation in 1982, Eichelberger-Hannah heard about basketball tryouts being held at East Central Junior College in Decatur.

She remembered wondering if she should pursue her dream of playing college basketball.

"I asked myself, what do you have to lose? The answer was clear....nothing but a missed opportunity if you don't try out," she recalled.

She said her faith took over that day on the basketball court.

"I had an extremely high level of fear before the tryouts because I had not picked up a basketball in two years...but God calmed my nerves and the rest, as they say, is history."

Eichelberger-Hannah was awarded a scholarship by then ECJC Warriorette head coach Lucille Wood and became of one of East Central's most outstanding basketball players, earning Kodak All-American, second team NJCAA All-American, All-Region 23 and first team All-State honors among her accolades.

In recognition of her success on the hardwood, Eichelberger-Hannah will be inducted into the College's Athletic Hall of Fame during Homecoming activities on Saturday, October 13 on the Decatur campus.

Regarding the prestigious honor, the inductee replied: "I feel a great sense of achievement and much gratefulness. The feeling is overwhelming with happiness."

Her accomplishments on the hardwood were even more remarkable, given the fact that she actually "hated basketball as a seventh grader" and quit the team.

But, she was "too tall" (at 5' 7 ∏") to quit as she was told and resumed her career in the eighth grade.

She played basketball from the ninth through eleventh grades for head coach Allen Goodin, "who taught me the fundamentals of basketball in all areas."

She helped lead the freshman team to a 9-3 mark, and honors began pouring in during her sophomore campaign when she received the best offensive player award. She earned All Conference honors her junior year in addition to receiving the most valuable player and best free-throw shooter awards.

She did not play basketball her senior year but instead concentrated on track, receiving several first place honors as a member of the mile relay team (now known as the 4x400), long jump and softball throw. She made the All-State track team on two occasions.

She enrolled at East Central in 1983, and the 5-9, guard/forward quickly realized that because she was about a year older than half the team, she needed to set an example for the other players.

She definitely set the example on the playing court, as evidenced by her long list of honors, which also included her selection as team captain, best offensive player and MACJC All-Star.

She was also a popular student and was involved in various campus activities. She was chosen homecoming queen in 1984, was a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes on the local and national levels and was named to Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges. She chuckled when asked about the homecoming queen election.

"Honestly," she said, "I entered the homecoming queen election without a thought of winning. I wanted to see if people would vote for me. After all the votes were tallied, I was told that the race was not even close. The experience of being voted homecoming queen was extraordinary. I enjoyed each and every moment of the festivities surrounding homecoming in 1984."

Regarding other highlights of her time at EC, she said the "biggest" highlight in basketball was when she scored 41 points against Clarke College to surpass Esther Thomas as the all-time leading scorer at East Central.

Eichelberger-Hannah sits atop the scoring list with 1292 points in 54 games, a 23.9 average. She finished second in the nation in scoring her freshman season and was ranked fourth her sophomore year.

She gave much of the credit for her success to Coach Wood, who nominated her former player for the award.

"Coach Wood was a tough coach but a good coach," she stated. "She cared about her players and wanted all of us to succeed. She would go beyond the call of her duties as a coach in order to make sure that her players were taken care of in any way needed. I owe much gratitude to Coach Wood because she gave me a second chance in pursuing my basketball career."

Wood, who is beginning her 54th year of service in the state's community and junior college system and 52nd year at East Central, referred to the former basketball standout "as one of the best players I ever coached."

"Joy could do it all....inside shooting, outside shooting... but speed was the key to her success," Wood stated. "She was also a good student and I

Cont'd →

Sept 24/07

Hall of Fame

Hannah

am happy that she gives East Central credit for much of her success."

Eichelberger-Hannah also mentioned as a highlight the experience of playing in two junior college All-Star games.

"Playing with so many great players was magnificent...and traveling to the NJCAA All-Star Game in Kansas was quite a thrill....because it was my first ride in an airplane!" she stated.

Eichelberger-Hannah was obviously highly recruited following her East Central career.

She had planned on attending the University for Women in Columbus but on the day she was supposed to mail her scholarship to the "W," she received invitations to visit the University of Mississippi and Mississippi State University campuses. She decided on Ole Miss, she said, mainly because of the Lady Rebels' head coach, Van Chancellor, who is also an ECCC alumnus.

"Coach Chancellor made things sound extremely interesting at Ole Miss," she stated. "He offered me a full scholarship to play basketball and I gladly accepted."

Eichelberger-Hannah helped lead the Lady Rebels to the Sweet Sixteen of the NCAA Tournament in 1985-86 and the Elite Eight in 1986-87. She was a starter her senior year and was named most improved player the same season. She graduated from Ole Miss in 1987 with a bachelor's degree in business administration.

She thought about playing basketball beyond Ole Miss but the only professional league in 1987 was on foreign soil, and she did not want to leave her son, Deandre', who was four years old at the time.

Eichelberger-Hannah resides in Tupelo where she serves as a Medicaid Specialist for the Division of Medicaid for the State of Mississippi.

She has two children, Deandre' K. Eiland and Charde' Joydan Hannah. Neither inherited her passion for basketball but both excel in other sports. Deandre' is a former NFL football player now playing with the Amsterdam Admirals of the NFL Europe League.

He also excelled in track and held the nation's 110 hurdle record during his senior year in high school. He also received honors during his football career at the University of South Carolina. Charde', a sixth grader, participates in soccer and gymnastics. She is already receiving scholarship offers in soccer.

WEEK OF Oct 1/07 cont'd

'Growing. Caring. Sharing'

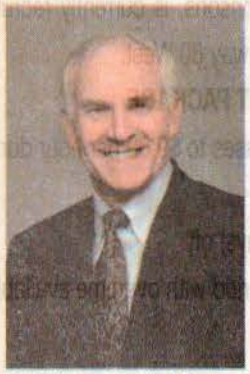
HOMECOMING 2007

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13

Alumna of the Year
Ollie Fay Wood
Woodward Flint
Philadelphia

Alumnus of the Year
Houston Patrick
Martin, TN

Athletic Hall of Fame
Joy Eichelberger Hannah
Tupelo



Athletic Hall of Fame
Gaines Massey
Brandon

Athletic Hall of Fame
Dr. Clyde Muse
Raymond

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Oct 11/07

Members of the 2007 East Central Community College Homecoming Court include (seated, from left) maid of honor Anna Rouse of Union and queen Dru Anderson of Decatur; and (standing, from left) sophomore maids Jordan Patterson of Aberdeen, Shonda Marshall of Carthage and Patience Haynes of Noxapater; and freshman maids Krystal Knight of Jackson, Kendra Sanders of Walnut Grove, Joy Hayes of Decatur and Briana Edison of Collins. The Queen and her Court will be presented Saturday, October 13, during halftime of the ECCC vs. Copiah-Lincoln Community College football game. Kickoff is set for 2:30 p.m. in Bailey Stadium on the Decatur campus.

Schedule of Events

7 a.m.	Registration for 5K Run/1 Mile Walk (Race Starts at 7:30 a.m.)
8:30 to 11:30 a.m.	Bookstore Open, Smith Student Union
9 a.m.	Homecoming Registration, East Mall Area Near Mabry Cafeteria
9 to 11 a.m.	Memorabilia Room Open, Burton Library
10 a.m.	Reunion Groups Meet
	May Queens and Homecoming Queens, Room 60, Newton Hall
	1947 Football Team, Room 92, Newton Hall
	1953, 1954 & 1955 Men's Basketball Teams, Room 90, Newton Hall
	Class of 1937, First Floor, Huff Auditorium
	Class of 1947, Room 92, Newton Hall
	Class of 1957, Auditorium, Vickers Fine Arts Center
	Class of 1967, Room 534, Vickers Fine Arts Center
	Class of 1977, Room 506, Vickers Fine Arts Center
	Class of 1987, Room 507, Vickers Fine Arts Center
	Class of 1997, Room 538, Vickers Fine Arts Center
	Classes of 1958 & 1959, Auditorium, Vickers Fine Arts Center
10:30 a.m.	Awarding of 50th Anniversary Diplomas to Class of 1957
11 a.m.	Homecoming Honorees' Meeting, Gordon Room, Mabry Cafeteria
	Warrior Club Annual Meeting, Room 60, Newton Hall
12 Noon	Alumni Luncheon, Mabry Cafeteria
2:30 p.m.	Football Game, ECCC vs. Co-Lin
	Halftime Presentation of Queen and Court
	Performance by the Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching Band

ART EXHIBIT
Thursday, October 11
Featuring ECCC Alumna Victoria Daniels
Vickers Fine Arts Center • 7 to 9 p.m.
Free Admission and Refreshments

East Central Community College

P.O. Box 129 • Decatur, MS 39327 • www.eccc.edu • 1-877-GO-2-ECCC

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE • ECCC WITH YOU IN MIND • DECATUR, MISSISSIPPI

WEEK OF Oct. 1/07

"Sebastopol Flash" to be inducted at EC

He was known as the "Sebastopol Flash" in high school who parlayed his basketball talents into successful careers at then East Central Junior College and Delta State University. He also experienced a successful coaching career on the hardwood.

from school reports

In recognition of his success as a basketball player and coach, Dr. Clyde Muse of Raymond has been tapped for membership into the ECCC Athletic Hall of Fame and will be honored during homecoming activities scheduled Saturday, Oct. 13, on the Decatur campus.

Dr. Muse, who is in his 29th year as president of Hinds Community College, regards his selection to the prestigious group of former athletic greats as a "tremendous honor."

He added, "I am well aware of those who have been selected in the past, and it is certainly a great honor to be among this fine group of athletes."

Muse, who played most of his career as a 6-foot-3, 170-pound center, was a three-year letterman at Sebastopol and helped lead the Bobcats to several championships, most notably the Scott County Tournament title in 1946.

Clyde Muse

When asked to cite the highlight of his high school career, Muse referred to the finals of the county championship.

"I was standing on the free throw line, with the game over and the score tied," he recalled. "I made the first free throw and ran to the dressing room, looking for everyone else to come on in and celebrate. Well, my teammates did come to the dressing room… and led me back to the court to shoot the last free throw!"

Muse completed high school in 1947 and later enrolled at East Central, thanks to assistance received from his high school principal, Leo Burns, and then EC president, Dr. L.O. Todd.

"I owe a great deal to Mr. Burns and Dr. Todd," Muse stated. "Mr. Burns recommended me to Dr. Todd who gave me a job washing dishes in the school cafeteria to help me pay for my college expenses."

When basketball season came around, Muse tried out for the team, which consisted of about 85 players, many of whom came from military service.

Muse said that Coach Arno Vincent "saw a possibility, that I might be a player…and I made the team."

His coaching stops included Canton and Starkville.

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

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IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Oct. 1/07

ECCC 'Neshoba County' adjunct instructors

These teachers from the Neshoba County area are members of the East Central Community College Adjunct Faculty for 2007-08. From left are Jennifer Murrell (accounting) and Gail Fulton (mathematics), both of Philadelphia. They joined other adjunct faculty members at a pre-session workshop held on the Decatur campus. (EC Photo)

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Sept 1/07

Winston instructors

ECCC 'Winston County' Adjunct Instructors
These Winston County teachers are members of the East Central Community College Adjunct Faculty for 2007-08. Pictured are (seated, from left) Annie Pearl Matthews (history) and Patsy Moore (English), both of Louisville; and (standing, from left) Mike Skipper (soils), Larry McCullouch (mathematics) and Sharon Reed (Spanish), all of Louisville. They joined other adjunct faculty members at a pre-session workshop held on the Decatur campus.

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UNION APPEAL _____

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Oct. 1/07

ECCC 'Newton County' Adjunct Instructors
These teachers from the Newton County area are members of the East Central Community College Adjunct Faculty for 2007-08. Pictured are (seated, from left) Sue Kelly (mathematics) of Lawrence, Tonya Nowell (psychology) of Decatur and Lisa Addy (criminal justice) of Decatur; and (standing from left) Shane Williams (criminal justice) of Decatur, Larry Gressett (psychology) of Conehatta, Robert Savell (business) of Lake and Richard Berryhill (geography) of Decatur. They joined other adjunct faculty members at a pre-session workshop held on the Decatur campus. (EC Photo)

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

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NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Oct. 1/07

ECCC 'Scott County' Adjunct Instructors

These teachers from the Scott County area are members of the East Central Community College Adjunct Faculty for 2007-08. Pictured are (from left) Tami Phillips (English) of Forest, Emily Baker (music) of Lake and Lori Nail (biology) of Pulaski. They joined other adjunct faculty members at a pre-session workshop held on the Decatur campus. (EC Photo)

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Oct. 1/02

Reunion, concert nearing for ECCC Gospel Choir alumni

A capacity crowd is expected for the upcoming reunion and concert of former members of the East Central Community College Gospel Choir, which is scheduled Oct. 6-7 on the Decatur campus.

Brenda K. Johnson of Lawrence, who has served as the group's director since 1988, said activities begin with a rehearsal at 4 p.m. Saturday in Huff Auditorium. The gospel choir alumni will perform in concert at 6 p.m. Sunday in the same location. The public is invited to attend and there is no charge for admission.

Johnson is among program participants for the concert performance and will offer "words of reflection" in addition to introducing members of the reunion choir. News reporter/anchor Andrea Williams of WTOK-TV in Meridian will serve as mistress of ceremonies. Also participating in the program are Ovid Vickers of Decatur, longtime ECCC faculty member; and former choir members the Rev. Marcus Mann of Forest and Terance Anderson of Carthage.

The ECCC Gospel Choir was formed during the 1985 fall semester through the leadership of then sophomore Sharron Goodman-Hill, who is credited with writing the organization's constitution and by-laws, and Mrs. Lawrence Tingle of Newton, who served as the group's first advisor. Goodman-Hill, an instructor of mass communications at Rust College in Holly Springs, recalled the choir's first concert.

"We rehearsed weekly in the fine arts building," she said. "The students worked hard and we were ready for our first fall concert on Monday, Nov. 18, 1985. The special guest choir was the award-winning Jackson State University Gospel Choir, directed by Jerry Smith, who is now the minister of music for the nationally and internationally acclaimed Mississippi Mass Choir. There were two great performances on campus that night..and I was very proud to be a part of the history for East Central Community College's gospel choir."

For more information regarding the ECCC Gospel Choir Reunion and Concert, contact Kathy Sanders in the College's Communications Office, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 215. The email address is ksanders@eccc.edu. Sanders is also a former Gospel Choir member and served as the group's president in 1988.

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UNION APPEAL _____

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OTHER _____

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Oct 1/07

East Central presents classical guitar concert

Classical guitarist Dr. Carlos Castilla will be presented in concert Wednesday, Oct. 10, at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Castilla's performance will begin at 1 p.m. in the Vickers Fine Arts Center. There is no charge for admission and the public is invited.

Castilla, who teaches classical guitar at William Carey University in Hattiesburg, has performed as a solo artist with different orchestras and chamber ensembles as well as solo recitals in Colombia, Peru, Costa Rica, Cuba, Venezuela and the United States of America.

He is also an artist of Banco de lo Republica, a noted music sponsor in Columbia.

He has a recording of Spanish and Latin American music, "Tradicion Hispana," and has participated in several 20th Century music recordings.

Dr. Castilla has performed in seminars and master classes for guitar icons such as Manuel Barrueco, Alirio Diaz, Eduardo Fernandez, Thomas Patterson, Costa Cotsiolis, Joaquin Clerch and Leo Brouwer.

His articles about new approaches to the guitar technique were published in *Guitar Sessions*, a magazine edited by Mel Bay Publications.

Castilla holds a bachelor's degree in music from Los Andes University in Bogota, Columbia, where he studied with Maestro Jaime Arias Obregon.

He did advanced studies in guitar performance in Havana, Cuba at Instituto Superior de Arte with Maestro Jesus Ortega.

He also holds a master's degree in guitar performance and currently is doing doctoral studies at the University of Southern Mississippi under the guidance of Dr. Nicholas Ciraldo.

In addition to performing classical music, Castilla is a recording artist with a variety of styles, including flamenco, pop jazz, Latin jazz, rock-fusion and Latin American rhythms. He not only works as a performer in a recording studio but also is a producer and sound engineer.

For more information telephone Len Bobo, ECCC music instructor, at 601-635-2111 or, toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 227, or email lbobo@eccc.edu.

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MERIDIAN STAR

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IMPACT

WEEK OF Oct. 1/07

GED help offered

ECCC's ABE/GED Instructors for Winston County
Teaching Adult Basic Education and GED-Preparation courses in Winston County for East Central Community College's Adult and Continuing Education program are (from left) Daphne Donald, Kay Ward and Janice Hunter, all of Louisville, and Janice Greene of McCool. Classes are held at Taylor Machine Works. For more information contact the ECCC Office of Adult and Continuing Education, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 279.

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Oct. 1/07

Grimes selected to lead ECCC drama department

Joan Grimes of Union was recently selected to lead the East Central Community College drama department, announced College President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

Grimes, who also serves as Coordinator of Tech Prep Education, will direct the fall dinner theater and spring semester musical, which are annual events on the Decatur campus.

Prior to her employment at East Central, Grimes served as English, chorus and drama instructor at West Lauderdale High School. She also held teaching positions in Leland and Newton schools. During her tenure at Leland, she received Teacher of the Year honors on three occasions.

In addition, Grimes has received training in voice, dance, piano, clarinet and speech and has performed various roles in Meridian Little Theater and Newton Theater Company productions. She is also a former member of the ECCC Collegians, EC Players, EC Concert Choir and Southern Exposure, a song and dance troupe at the University of Southern Mississippi.

Grimes serves as an entertainer and emcee for local pageants and events. She serves as a member of the ECCC Beauty Pageant Committee and is on the Board of Directors for the Miss East Central Mississippi Pageant, which is a Miss Mississippi preliminary.

Joan Grimes

She has also served as Professional Development Presenter/Trainer in the Tech Prep office of the Mississippi Department of Education.

She is a member of the National Tech Prep Network, National Association for Tech Prep Leadership, National Council of Teachers of English, Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development and Mississippi Theatre Association.

A graduate of Union High School, Grimes holds an Associate in Arts degree from ECCC and a Bachelor of Arts degree in English Education from the University of Southern Mississippi. She is working toward a master's degree at Mississippi State University.

She has a son, Joshua Joyner (Jo Jo) Grimes, a third grader at Unio Elementary School.

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

ECCC plans honorees, activities for Oct. 13 Homecoming

Recognition of Alumni Association award winners and other activities have been announced for the 2007 Homecoming celebration scheduled Saturday, October 13, at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for alumni and foundation relations, who coordinates the annual event.

This year's honorees include Ollie Fay Wood Woodward Flint of Philadelphia, Alumna of the Year; Houston Patrick of Martin, TN, Alumnus of the Year; and Joy Eichelberger Hannah of Tupelo, Gaines Massey of Brandon and Dr. Clyde Muse of Raymond, who are tapped for the College's Athletic Hall of Fame.

Mrs. Flint had a distinguished career mostly spent in federal civilian service with the U.S. Air Force and is known for her work in various civic, community and church-related activities.

Patrick, a Scott County native, is Mayor of Weakley County in Martin, TN and has served the past 41 years as pastor of Macedonia Primitive Baptist Church in Martin. He also served 24 years at Register of Deeds prior to his election as mayor.

Massey played quarterback and defensive back on the 1958 and 1959 Warrior football squads, earning most valuable offensive back and team captain honors his sophomore season. He continued his athletic career at Millsaps College where he again was chosen most valuable offensive back and was named the Majors' most outstanding senior by the Jackson Touchdown Club.

He also had brief stints as a football, basketball and track coach before beginning his current career in the insurance business.

Eichelberger-Hannah, a Louisville native, received numerous honors as a member of the 1983-84 and 1984-85 Warriorette basketball squads, including her selection as a Kodak Junior College All-American and second team NJCAA All-American. She also received first team All-Region and All-State recognition and was a member of the NJCAA and MACJC All-Star Squads. She also served as team captain.

She finished second among the nation's top scorers in 1984 and placed fourth in 1985. She is recognized as the College's top scorer with 1292 points in 54 games, a 23.9-point average.

She continued her athletic career at the University of Mississippi and helped lead the Lady Rebels to the Sweet Sixteen of the NCAA Tournament in 1985-86 and the Elite Eight in 1986-87. She was named most improved player following her senior season.

Eichelberger-Hannah resides in Tupelo where she serves as Medicaid Specialist for the Division of Medicaid for the State Mississippi.

Dr. Muse, a Sebastopol native, was a member of the 1947-48 and 1948-49 Warrior basketball squads. He received most valuable player honors his sophomore season and served as team captain. He was also a member of the 1948 track team.

cessful coaching career. One of his basketball squads at Canton High School captured the Choctaw Conference crown and he led Starkville High School to the A-AA State Basketball championship in 1961.

In recognition of his successful coaching career, Muse was inducted into the Mississippi Association of Coaches Hall of Fame in 2000.

Muse began his career as a school administrator in 1959 and is serving his 29th year as president of Hinds Community College.

REUNION GROUPS BEING HONORED

Also being honored during homecoming activities are former May Queens and Homecoming Queens; the 1947 Warrior football team; the 1953, 1954 and 1955 Warrior basketball teams; members of the 1958 and 1959 classes; and members of all classes ending in "7."

Walk begin events Homecoming day and gets underway with registration at 7 a.m. at the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. The race starts at 7:30 a.m. Cost is $12 per participant. Awards will be presented to overall winners and the top finishers in various age groups. T-shirts will be provided to all participants.

Homecoming registration begins at 9 a.m. on the East Mall Patio located near Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Refreshments will be available during registration.

The Memorabilia Room, located in Burton Library, will be open from 9 to 11 a.m.

The College Bookstore located at the Eddie M. Smith Student Union, will be open for business from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Bookstore Items will also be available for purchase during game time at the new entrance to the football stadium.

In addition, he excelled in basketball at Delta State University on the 1950-51 and 1951-52 squads and helped lead the Statesmen to the NAIA Regionals title and a berth in the national championship. He served as team captain his senior season.

Muse also had a suc-

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Homecoming week activities begin Thursday, October 11 with an art exhibit by alumna Victoria Daniels of Philadelphia. Her artwork will be on display from 7 to 9 p.m. in the lobby of the Vickers Fine Arts Center. There is no charge for admission and refreshments will be served.

A 5K Run and One-Mile

"Special" diplomas will be presented to members of the 1957 class in recognition of their 50th anniversary. ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin will present diplomas during a ceremony beginning at 10:30 a.m. in the Vickers Fine Arts Center.

The annual Warrior Club meeting is scheduled at 11 a.m. in Newton Hall, Room 60.

The Alumni luncheon begins at noon in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Recipients of Alumni of the Year and Athletic Hall of Fame awards will be recognized during the program.

East Central hosts Copiah-Lincoln Community College in the annual homecoming football game, which kicks off at 2:30 p.m. at Bill and Louise Bailey Stadium. The homecoming queen and her court will be presented during halftime ceremonies.

For more information on Homecoming 2007, contact Stacey Hollingsworth, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 327. The email address is sholling@eccc.edu.

WEEK OF Oct 8/07

Massey tapped for ECCC Athletic Hall of Fame

Massey

When Gaines Massey arrived on the then East Central Junior College campus in 1958 following a standout career at Morton High School, the 160-pound quarterback/defensive back quickly discovered he was among men much bigger and stronger.

"The Korean Conflict had ended a few years earlier and following passage of the GI Bill, many veterans came to the junior colleges and a lot of them played sports," Massey recalled. "Many of the football players on our team ranged in age from 21-26 and some had scars on their faces, beards, mustaches and even tattoos. Heck, I don't think I was even shaving at the time!"

Massey was not only "just as tough" as some of the veterans and his other teammates, he was among the top players on the team, earning most valuable offensive back honors in addition to his selection as team captain.

In recognition of his success on the gridiron, Massey joins the list of other ECCC standouts in the College's Athletic Hall of Fame. He will officially be enshrined during Homecoming activities on Saturday, October 13.

Regarding his induction, Massey said: "I am honored to be an ECCC Athletic Hall of Fame inductee, and I feel very lucky to have been chosen for such an honor. I especially want to thank everyone who voted for me.

Massey said "Lady Luck has often been on his side in sports.

"I played in 40 college football games (he was also a standout at Millsaps College) and never missed a game due to an injury," he stated. "I had some nicks and bruises but none serious enough to miss a game."

Massey and his Warrior teammates compiled a 7-4 record his freshman year, which included two match-ups with rival East Mississippi, led at the time by the legendary coach "Bull" Sullivan.

"We won the first game (14-12) in the season opener and then lost the second contest (20-6) later in the year," he recalled. "It was really a bitter rivalry back then. One game with them was really one too many!"

But the most memorable game against "Scooba" came his sophomore season in 1959, when the Warriors posted a 6-4 mark.

"We played at a neutral site – in Meridian," Massey recalled. "About midway in the first quarter Coach Sullivan ran onto the field and yelled to his players that he wanted me killed! That was a scary feeling, to say the least! Again, 'lucky me' survived and we won the game."

Massey said Bobby Oswalt and assistant Tommy Cheney "were great coaches and made sure we were in top physical shape."

"We had very few players that weighed over 215 pounds, and I

See **MASSEY**, page 3B

APPEARED IN:

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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played at 160," Massey said. "We had to be in good shape to play both ways, and believe me, our coaches did all they could- plus some- to make sure we were in top condition!"

Massey said the Warrior coaches were also a "step ahead" of the opposition.

"They installed an offense that let us call most of our plays at the line of scrimmage," Massey stated. "I would call just any number in the huddle – we didn't want to waste time – because I almost always changed the play at the line of scrimmage based on the defense we faced."

When Massey graduated from EC in 1960, he had several scholarship offers to consider.

He first chose to attend the University of South Louisiana – Lafayette, but after a few weeks of fall practice, Massey left the school due to his father's illness. Massey worked for a year and helped support his mother and younger brother and sister.

"I grew up a lot that year," Massey said of this trying time. "And when Millsaps offered me an academic scholarship, I was ready to return to college and continue my athletic career."

Massey said the NCAA changed its substitution rule in the early 1960s so players did not have to play on offense and defense.

"I only had to play offense and I loved that situation. Football was also easier for me at Millsaps," Massey recalled. "The game was not as physical as junior college – fewer cheap shots, unnecessary penalties, etc."

Massey said the highlight of his junior season was that "every away game was a homecoming game for our opponent, which was somewhat unusual, of course."

And his senior year was one of "adjustment."

"I had played quarterback all my life and the new coaches at Millsaps wanted me to play fullback," he said. "I didn't mind running the ball but was not too excited about blocking; quarterbacks don't usually have to block anyone! But I was a little bigger then- I weighed about 175 pounds – and agreed to play wherever they wanted me."

The new assignment actually worked just fine for Massey, especially when the coaches added a fullback option pass to the play list.

"This worked out great because I had the option of running or passing on sweep plays," he stated. "I was probably the only fullback in American that threw the ball several times in a game!"

Massey averaged 6.8 yards per carry his senior season and was named honorable mention All-American. He was also chosen the Majors' best offensive back. In addition, the Jackson Touchdown Club recognized him as Millsaps' outstanding senior football player. Five other players representing their respective colleges were also honored during the touchdown club's annual banquet.

"I was honored to have been chosen for the award representing Millsaps," he said. "And I especially felt honored to have my picture taken with Glynn Griffing of Ole Miss, Johnny Baker of Miss. State, Johnny Sklopan of Southern Mississippi, Earl Coleman of Delta State and Benson Holland of Mississippi College. Again, lucky me..."

Prior to his stellar careers at East Central and Millsaps, Massey was an offensive and defensive standout at Morton High School. He helped lead the Panthers to the North Little Dixie Conference championship his senior season in 1957. Morton fell 13-6 to Mendenhall for the overall title and finished 10-1. Massey was chosen his team's most valuable player following the championship season. He also had a productive junior campaign, earning best defensive back honors highlighted by seven interceptions. Morton went 7-2-1 that season.

In recognition of his athletic accomplishments at MHS – Massey also played basketball and baseball – the school named one of its dressing rooms in his honor when the gym was constructed in the mid-60's.

Massey, who majored in history at Millsaps, taught and coached for six years following graduation in 1963.

He began his career at Morton, where he taught history and U.S. Government classes and coached junior high football, basketball and girls' and boys' track in addition to serving as assistant high school football coach.

After three years teaching and coaching at Morton, Massey moved to Greenwood to assist his former high school coach, Hollis Rutter. Massey was the backfield coach for the football team and was head baseball coach.

Following a three-year stint in Greenwood, Massey entered the insurance business in 1969 and continues to serve in the same profession. He has his own business in Flowood and has earned Chartered Life Underwriter and Chartered Financial Consultant designations.

Massey married his high school "sweetheart," the former Linda Laughlin of Morton, in 1963.

They have four grown children. Gaines Michael Massey, Steven C. Massey, Jeffrey L. Massey and Melissa M. Williams. The Masseys also have nine grandchildren.

WEEK OF Oct 8/07

ECCC alumna of the year known for helping others

Whether it's helping family members and co-workers, participating in various church-related activities, helping provide housing for the homeless or serving as a "counselor" to those in need, Ollie Fay Wood Woodward Flint of Philadelphia assumes whatever role is needed.

Because of the compassion she has shown to others throughout her life and her distinguished career, Flint has been selected East Central Community College's "Alumna of the Year" for 2007. She will be recognized along with other honorees during homecoming activities scheduled Saturday on the Decatur campus.

When told about the prestigious honor, Flint responded, "I was speechless...I really was ... I felt so humbled .... and flabbergasted!"

Now retired, Flint divides her time between her homes in Philadelphia and Shalimar, Fla., and enjoys traveling with various senior groups. She also spends time helping to take care for the needs of her mother, Gussie Wood Flint, who is nearing 100 and resides in a nursing home in Philadelphia.

Flint enjoyed a lengthy career, spent mostly in federal civilian service.

But life was not easy for the Neshoba County native, especially during her early years.

Flint's father, Ollie M. Wood, died at age 40 in 1942. He was serving as a member of the ECJC Board of Trustees at the time of his death. Flint, who was 12 at the time, assumed the responsibility of helping her mother rear her younger brothers and sisters whose ages ranged from 10 months to 10 years. The family survived "by hard work" on a mortgaged farm in Neshoba County.

"My mother sent me to college by working a 40-plus hour workweek in the Wells-Lamont Glove Factory in Philadelphia, earning 40 cents an hour," Flint said. "She would sell a cow if additional funds were needed for tuition and books. The family also received $40 a month from the Aid to Dependent Child Welfare Fund."

Flint said her first experience living with indoor plumbing - including showers - was when she moved into Jackson Hall on the EC campus in 1947. She had just graduated as valedictorian from Arlington Vocational High School, completing high school coursework in three years.

At EC, she worked in the dining hall as a "self-help" student, earning $18 a month, which covered room and board. Mrs. Annie Breazeale Blount was the dietician and Mrs. Grace Gardner was dean of women.

Many World War II veterans also attended EC during that time. Grits were often served at breakfast and at supper. Flint recalled one former soldier quipping that he knew why grits were not served in the Army. "They were all at Decatur."

Flint participated in the Baptist Student Union and Future Business Leaders of America club. She was a member of the Tom-Tom staff and served as Jackson Hall House President the summer of 1948.

Ollie Fay Wood Woodward Flint

Flint said football and basketball games, physical education classes, Maypole dances, May Day and Freshman Day were also a part of campus life.

"The night before Freshman Day we washed our hair but did not comb it. The next day, we had to wear our

See **FLINT**, page 12A

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

clothes wrong side out and backwards and probably walked barefoot - I really don't remember," she laughed. "We also had to parade downtown to Decatur in our 'Freshman Day' attire."

Flint said she remembered making her first speech in Mrs. Stella Newsome's speech class. When she completed it, Mrs. Newsome's critique was that Flint "did not know enough about anything to make a speech."

"That was the most eye-opening thing anyone had ever said to me," Flint remarked. "So prior to my next speech, I did a lot more research on my topic and did much better."

Flint completed her coursework at EC in 15 months, attending two summer terms in addition to a fall and spring semester.

Teachers she remembers who made an impact on her besides Mrs. Newsome were Miss Una Harris, Wallace Bedwell, Mr. and Mrs. W.A. Walker, Mrs. Gladys Darby Pennington, Mrs. Janie Sullivan, L. D. Ferguson and Dr. L. O. Todd. "After one semester in Dr. Todd's history class, I found a conflict to avoid taking his second semester class!" she admitted.

Three days after being awarded her AA degree in August 1948, Flint began employment as a junior stenographer for the Neshoba County Welfare Department. She said there was a seven-month typing backlog of welfare cases when she started the job. Her work day officially began at 8:30 a.m.; however, she rode to work on a "work truck" from the country with those who began work at 6:30 a.m. Within four months, Flint said she completed the backlog, using an old manual "Underwood" typewriter and on her own time.

Flint worked a six-day, 44-hour week. She was paid $125 per month, and contributed enough to the family budget to allow her mother to get off the welfare role.

A year later, she left the welfare department and went to work as interviewing clerk in the Tupelo office of the Mississippi Employment Security Commission. In 1953, a reduction in force transferred her to the Jackson office where she became a principal clerk. She was with the commission from October 1949 to June 1956.

It was in Jackson that she met her future husband, Paul Woodward from Indianola. After they were married in June 1956 and moved to Greenville, she began working for the federal government, first with United States Army Corps of Engineers. When their office closed, she began a career with the United States Air Force that lasted from 1957-93. At Greenville Air Force Base, she became a reporting stenographer in the base hospital. In this position, she researched requirements and kept minutes and records of the boards and committees to assist in the hospital becoming accredited by the American Accreditation of Hospitals.

Her husband was a draftsman and electronics technician. They transferred to Eglin AFB, Florida, in 1964 because of base closure.

At Eglin, she was employed as a secretary in the Civilian Personnel Office, the Armament Division Test Center Command Post, and the Civil Engineering Squadron. In the command post from 1966-68, she contributed to writing war and contingency plans. One Air Force Colonel supervisor in the CE squadron wrote in a letter of commendation that Flint "was the best secretary" who had worked for him.

In December 1980, she was selected for an "upward mobility" position as an industrial engineering technician and management analyst in CE. Among her duties was responsibility for justifying manpower and wartime planning. Her last assignment involved providing data needed for the reorganization taking place within the Air Force and Civil Engineering.

Also, during the last 12 years of employment, she had collateral duty assignments as federal women's program manager/coordinator and equal employment opportunity officer for CE.

She related that when she went into the upward mobility position, she returned to the classroom and completed various coursework required for the new position and collateral duties.

"That was the period of change when minorities and women were being allowed into the Eglin workplace in blue collar positions and nontraditional roles. These changes allowed me to go into the upward mobility position," she said.

She recalled that not everyone welcomed change.

"One man made the comment, 'I'll never have a women working in my shop.' It was a challenge to try to educate some people."

Flint helped to arrange and present briefings and seminars for supervisors and commanders as well as the CE workers, military and civilian, on requirements of the law regarding equal employment opportunity and sexual harassment and on the necessity to have a workforce that mirrored the make-up of the general population. "It was a period of adjustment and reeducation for all of us," she said.

Among her functions in the collateral duties, Flint provided a "listening ear" to women and minorities facing obstacles in the workplace. Letters of commendation recognized her efforts at conflict resolution and contributions to Eglin AFB Equal Employment Opportunity and Federal Women's programs.

Flint received numerous honors during her civilian Air Force career, including the United States Air Force Distinguished Equal Employment Opportunity Award for Federal Women's Programs in 1990, and the United States Air Force Systems Command Distinguished Equal Employment Opportunity Award for Federal Women's Programs for 1985 and 1986. She also received many outstanding performance awards, cash step increases and cash awards.

In addition to her work at the base, Flint was involved in various activities as a member of the United Methodist Church in Shalimar, Florida, which she continued into her retirement.

She served as a member of the Pastor-Parish Relations and Missions committees, served seven years as chairperson of a United Methodist Women (UMW) circle, three years as president of the local church unit and one year as president of the Pensacola District UMW. She also served as the Pensacola District UMW Blue Lake representative, was chairperson for the Committee on Nominations for two years and was a three-year member of the Alabama-West Florida UMW Conference Cabinet. In addition, she served a one-year term on the Pensacola District United Methodist Church Board.

One of the activities she was involved with as a member of the Shalimar UMW was support for the work with the Okaloosa County Coalition on the Homeless.

"Twelve group homes were made available for homeless families until they could get on their feet," she said. "Several people in our church were instrumental in doing the legal work to establish the homes, and I was fortunate enough to secure a $2500 grant from the Women's Division of the Global Board of Missions of the United Methodist Church to help with funding special needs."

She also participated with the Alabama West-Florida Conference UMW in fundraising efforts culminating in building two Habitat for Humanity homes, one in Alabama and one in Florida.

Flint assisted in the care for her husband's elderly mother in her home for over three years. She also assisted in the support and care of her husband's four elderly maiden aunts from 1964 until the last survivor died at age 103 in 2001. In 1987, when the aunt was 90 and required care, she brought her into her home where she remained until her health required nursing home care three years later.

She has also had her own health concerns. She is a colon cancer survivor since 1973.

Flint's life changed when her husband of almost 40 years died in March 1996.

It changed again when she was married to L.L. Flint of Philadelphia in September 1997. Mr. Flint was the nephew of her late step-father. They were married less than two years when Mr. Flint died.

Flint has a daughter, Diana, who is married to William LaCroix. They reside in Navarre, Fla.

WEEK OF Oct. 8/07

ECCC PHOTO

FINALIZING ECCC HOMECOMING PLANS

Making final preparations for East Central Community College's 2007 Homecoming celebration are the above members of the Alumni Association Board of Directors who recently held their fall semester meeting on the Decatur campus. Homecoming activities are scheduled Saturday, Oct. 13. Pictured are (front row, from left) Ann Burkes of Decatur, Newton County representative; Cheryl Comans of Cleveland, secretary; Dayna Morgan of Philadelphia, Neshoba County representative; Flo Henley of Starkville, Association president; Lynn Hayes of Decatur, past president; and Dru Anderson of Decatur, Student Body Association president; (second row, from left) James Vance of Meridian, out-of-district representative; Dr. Bob Tom Johnson of Forest, Scott County representative; Harvey Trapp of Newton, Association vice president; and Lois Cooper of Decatur, Newton County representative; and (back row, from left) ECCC officials Joe Killens, vice president for student services; Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, president; Christi Gregory, career-technical counselor; and Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for foundation and alumni relations. For more information contact Stacey Hollingsworth, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 327. The email address is sholling@eccc.edu.

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

Patrick selected EC Alumnus of the Year

Houston W. Patrick of Martin, Tennessee, was recently named Alumnus of the Year at East Central Community College in Decatur and will be recognized during the College's annual Homecoming festivities scheduled Saturday, October 13 on the Decatur campus.

Patrick said he was "absolutely stunned" when he heard College President Dr. Phil Sutphin informing him of the honor.

"This is, without doubt, one of the greatest honors anyone could receive," Patrick said. "The only comparable was my call to the ministry."

A Scott County native, Patrick is the son of the late Brooks and Grace Patrick and grew up in the Ringgold Community. He currently resides in Martin, Tennessee, where he serves as Mayor of Weakley County and also serves as pastor of Macedonia Primitive Baptist Church, a pos ion he has held for 41 consecutive years. He previously served Weakley County as Register of Deeds for 24 years.

Among career highlights are his selection for public office in a county where no "outsider" had ever been elected. He was also re-elected five terms in a county where the average is two.

But, he says his call to the ministry and being able to serve the same church for 41 consecutive years has been the most significant event in his life.

"I retired after having a heart attack in 2000," said Patrick. "I stayed in retirement for four years before I was asked to run for this position I now occupy. A successful campaign put me back to work September 1, 2006. As chief executive officer, I perform basically the same type of things for the county as a governor would for the state."

Of his days spent as an ECJC student, Patrick said, "My time at East Central was some of the most joyful and productive years of my early adulthood. This was a most significant time in solidifying the direction of my life."

His time at East Central Junior College began in 1952 when he arrived on campus with only $5 in his pocket.

He explained, "My brother brought me to East Central on the day of testing for entrance scores. It poured rain so hard the old car flooded out twice on our way so that I arrived at 10 a.m. instead of 8 a.m. Needless to say, my brother, James, was thoroughly disgusted with the entire fiasco.

"When we pulled up in front of Scott Hall, his remark was, 'Hut, don't stay here. This place looks like a prison.' Though I only had $5 in my pocket, I stayed the course. The second day I was on campus, I went job seeking. My good fortune was to encounter Dr. L.O. Todd (then College president) as he was leaving his office for lunch. Everyone else had already left. I explained my need for work if I were to stay beyond three days.

"His response was to say, 'Come on, son, I think I have a job for you.' He led me down to see Mr. (Andy) Miller, the head custodian, who handed me a straight broom and said, 'Your job will be to sweep this walk every morning at 5:30.' I gladly accepted the job and swept the walk all across the campus for two years at 5:30 in the morning."

He added, "My greatest fear on campus was when I had to go inside the girls dormitory while doing my chores. For a greenhorn freshman, the girls dorm was like going into a prison. Ms. Barber was the warden and Mrs. Sullivan was the assistant warden!"

"I will always remember the kindness of Dr. L.O Todd in helping me secure my first job at East Central," he said, "without which I could not have attended school at that time."

In addition to Dr. Todd, there were others on campus who had a great impact on Patrick's life.

"Mrs. Stella Newsome was such a precious friend and teacher. She taught me that being poor was not a hindrance to becoming successful. She encouraged me to persevere in my quest for knowledge and excellence. She also knew that I worked three small jobs every day just to stay in school and she did not want me to become discouraged and possibly fail along the way.

"There were others that had a great impact on my life; notably, Mr. (G.L.) Palmer in the agriculture department; Mr. (Frank) Cross in chemistry; Mr. (James R.) Bobo in social studies; Coach (Billy Ray) Lindsley in P.E.; Mr. (Frank) Leatherwood in the biology department; and also Mr. (R.C.) Roberts, Mr. (L.D.) Ferguson and Coach (Arno) Vincent. These were all mentors to me in various ways.

Patrick said he also enjoyed being on the East Central campus.

"Campus life at East Central was wonderful! I was able to secure enough work on campus to pay my expenses for the most part. On weekends, I worked for Mrs. Sullivan off campus, but I was a happy camper.

"My teachers were excellent and I was studying what I loved, which was agriculture and science. Life was a pleasure every day. No neg-

Cont. page 2B, Patrick

Patrick...

Continued from page 1B

tives!"

Among honors Patrick received was being selected treasurer of the agriculture club, associate editor of advertising for the Wo-He-Lo yearbook, treasurer of the student body association; and induction into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society of the two-year college.

After completing the associate's degree at East Central, Patrick served two years in the military and then enrolled at Mississippi State University, where he completed his bachelor's degree.

Patrick is married to the former Maxine Cockroft of Sebastopol, also an EC alumnus (Class of 1961), who serves as an officer with First Citizens National Bank in Martin. They have one son, Joseph Madden Patrick, who resides in Spring Hill, Tenn. with his wife, Jennifer.

WEEK OF Oct. 15/07

ECCC Homecoming Honorees

Special recognition was given to the above East Central Community College alumni who received honors at the annual Alumni Awards luncheon held during homecoming activities Saturday, Oct. 13 on the Decatur campus. Seated from left are Ollie Fay Wood Woodward Flint of Philadelphia, Alumna of the Year; and Houston W. Patrick of Martin, TN, Alumnus of the Year. Standing from left are Gaines Massey of Brandon, Joy Eichelberger Hannah of Tupelo and Dr. Clyde Muse of Raymond, who were inducted into the College's Athletic Hall of Fame. Patrick, Massey and Dr. Muse are Scott County natives and Hannah is a former resident of Louisville. (EC Photo)

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Oct. 15/07

ECCC homecoming queen

Dru Anderson of Decatur was crowned East Central Community College's homecoming queen during halftime ceremonies of the Warriors' football game with Copiah-Lincoln Community College held Saturday, Oct. 13, at Bailey Stadium in Decatur. Anderson, a product of Newton County High School, received her crown from ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin (left). Also pictured are the queen's escort, Ryan Reeves of Forest, and the 2006 homecoming queen, Maggie McDill of Decatur, who presented her former classmate with a bouquet of roses. (EC Photo)

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

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IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Oct 15/07

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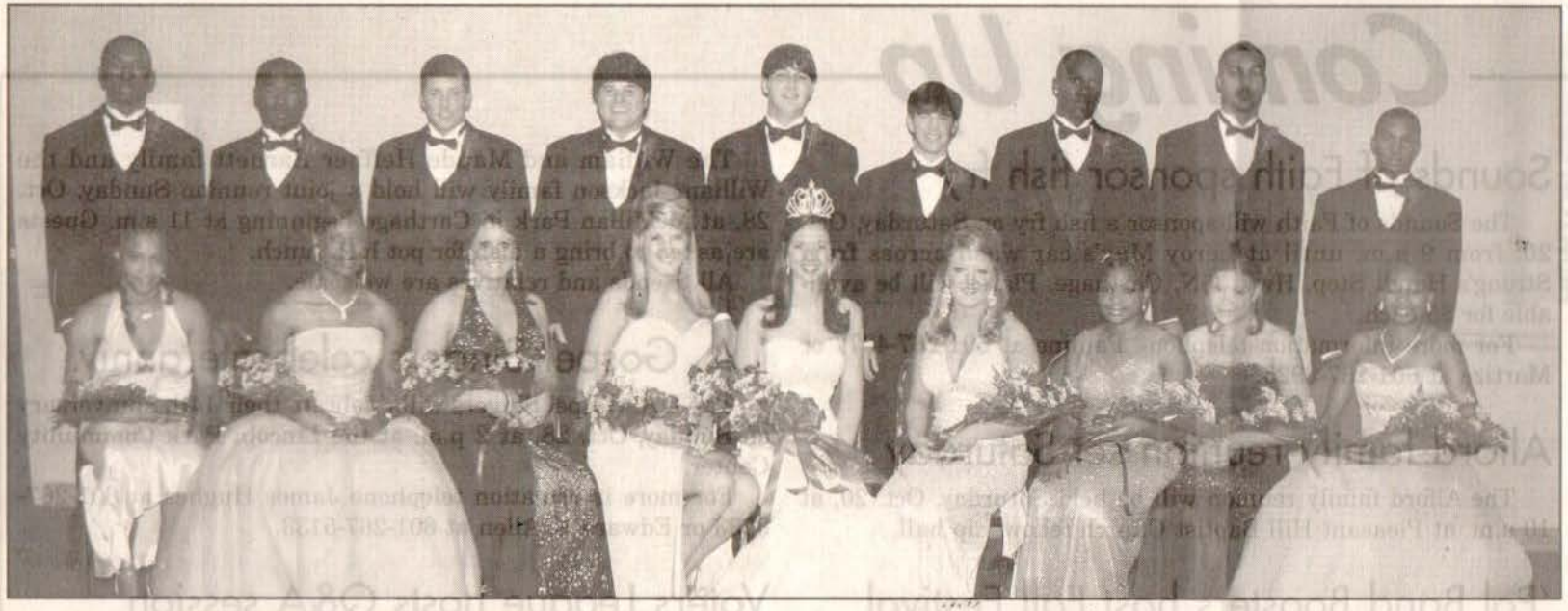

EC homecoming court

Above are members of the East Central Community College Homecoming Court who were presented during halftime ceremonies of the Warrior's football game with Copiah-Lincoln Community College Saturday, Oct. 13, at Bailey Stadium. Seated from left are sophomore maids Shonda Marshall of Carthage, Patience Haynes of Noxapater and Jordan Patterson of Aberdeen; Maid of Honor Anna Rouse of Union; Queen Dru Anderson of Decatur; and freshman maids Joy Hayes of Decatur, Briana Edison of Collins, Krystal Knight of Jackson and Kendra Sanders of Walnut Grove. Standing from left are escorts Rico Jones of Forest, Chauncey Hudson of Noxapater, Jordan Gilmer of Sebastopol, Rick Parks of Philadelphia, Ryan Reeves of Forest, Hunter Hayes of Decatur, Darron Maxtion of Huntsville, Ala.; Mark Wilson of Delhi, La.; and Chris Kelly of Carthage.

WEEK OF Oct. 15, '07

Vickers to present ECCC humanities program Nov. 1

The "Ups and Downs of Poetry" will be discussed Thursday, November 1 by longtime East Central Community College faculty member Ovid Vickers, this year's recipient of the Mississippi Humanities Council Teacher Award.

The special presentation begins at 7 p.m. in the Vickers Fine Arts Center auditorium. The public is invited and there is no charge for admission.

Vickers, who retired from full-time teaching duties in 1995, continues to teach on a part-time basis as needed.

Prior to his retirement, Vickers twice served as president of the Mississippi Council of Teachers of English, and in 1990 he was selected College English Teacher of the Year by the Council. He also served as an officer in the Southeastern Conference on English in the Two-Year College and was honored by that organization in 1990 for his dedication and service. In 2004, the organization presented Vickers with the prestigious Doster Award for his contributions to the organization, including co-authoring its history.

Ovid Vickers

A folklorist, essayist, newspaper columnist and poet, Vickers' articles, essays, short stories and poems have appeared in such publications as Southern Living, Mississippi Magazine, The Texas Review and The Southern Quarterly. As one of the founders of the Mississippi Folklore Society, he served for 25 years as an officer in that organization and contributed on a regular basis to its journal, the Mississippi Folklore Register.

Vickers' poetry is included in two volumes of the University Press of Mississippi's anthologies, Mississippi Writers: Reflections of Childhood and Youth and the companion volume, An Anthology of Mississippi Writers. Vickers was one of four Mississippians selected to

See **VICKERS**, page 11A

read from their work at the 2000 inauguration of Governor Ronnie Musgrove. His short stories have appeared in national and regional magazines and journals.

He also writes a weekly column for a number of east Mississippi newspapers and has been honored on three occasions by the Mississippi Press Association for Best Column in a weekly newspaper.

In 1995, when Vickers retired from fulltime teaching, East Central Community College honored him by naming the Fine Arts Center in his honor.

In 2003, he was recognized by the Mississippi Humanities Council with the Chairman's Award for Outstanding Contributions in the Field of Humanities, and in 2005 he was named one of Mississippi's Ageless Heroes.

Vickers and his wife Carol reside in Decatur. They have three grown children. Nona Vickers serves as assistant principal at Steele Elementary School in Birmingham, Ala., and has two children, Jon and Carol Anne Creel. Harriet Laird is Director of External Communications for the Nissan Company in Canton. She is married to Jim Laird and they have two daughters, Hannah and Harper. Ovid Vickers III teaches auto collision repair technology at Hinds Community College in Raymond. He is married to the former Mary Beth Chandler and they have two sons, Ovid IV and Raymond Chandler.

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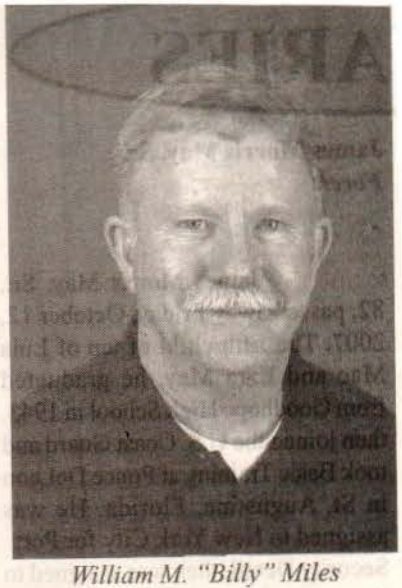
WEEK OF Oct. 13/07

Miles Attends 'Physics' Workshop



William M. "Billy" Miles

Physics instructor William M. "Billy" Miles of East Central Community College in Decatur, recently attended a workshop on Data Visualization and Strategies (DVTS) held at Mt. San Antonio College in Walnut, California.

Miles, who resides in Morton, was among selected participants representing college and high school physics educators from eight states and Puerto Rico who attended the physics professional development project, sponsored by Lee College (Texas), Estrella Mountain Community College (Arizona) and the Advanced Technological Education Program of the National Science Foundation.

At the DVTS workshop, Miles was introduced to a variety of innovated data visualization approaches applicable to students in both high school and two-year college courses in physics. Miles worked with video-based motion analysis in a wide range of applications, including the teaching laboratory, projects and homework that are appropriate for students specializing in technical fields.

Another innovative approach that Miles worked with was the use of Global Positioning System (GPS) technology and how GPS can be used in the physics program at ECCC. Additionally, Miles worked with tasks developed using results from physics education research. During this hands-on workshop, Miles became familiar with these innovative approaches and learned ways to implement these approaches and tasks with students at ECCC.

curricula for their technology – oriented students.

Workshop leaders included Martin Mason of Mt. San Antonio College in Walnut, CA; J. B. Sharma of Gainesville State College, Gainesville, GA: Dwain Desbien of Estrella Mountain Community College, Avondale, AZ; and Tom O'Kuma of Lee College in Baytown, TX.

Recent physics education research indicates that the "traditional" lecture-style, passive learning model does not substantially impact the learning of most students who take introductory physics. Research also indicates that most students enter introductory physics with alternative conceptions to many of the basic concepts that are taught in introductory physics. The adaptable curriculums highlighted in this workshop addressed both these issues and have a track record of great success from students using these curricular approaches.

This workshop was the fourth of 12 workshops and conferences that will be offered at various two-year college sites around the nation as part of the ATE Program for Physics Faculty.

During the workshop, Miles had an opportunity to develop new materials for students in a collaborative group of other two-year college and high school educators. One of the primary goals of the workshop was to show how these ideas could be implemented at the two-year colleges and high schools.

The workshop leaders have many years of experience in developing and refining curriculum for introductory physics students. In addition, and more importantly, the workshop leaders have extensive experience with the implementation and adaptation of curriculum in a variety of institutions and for many types of introductory physics students along with the training of faculty in using and developing their own

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WEEK OF Oct. 22/07

1952 QUEEN

Ree Wilson, from Georgetown, Texas recently attended East Central Community College's Homecoming Festivities. She was the 1952 May Queen. Ree is married to Bill Wilson. She is also the sister of Marcella Langford.

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Oct. 22

ckledge named ECCC ıysical plant director

David Blackledge of Newton was recently selected Director of the Physical Plant at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, ECCC president.

David Blackledge

Blackledge, who began his new duties on October 1, 2007, was previously employed with Southern Pine Electric Power Association, where he served as Newton District Engineer/Supervisor.

He is also former Research and Development Engineer with Ingalls Shipbuilding in Pascagoula and served as electrical engineering assistant for the Mississippi State University High Voltage Laboratory in Starkville. In all, has more than 25 years experience in the electrical field, which includes four years service in the U.S. Navy.

A graduate of Pearl High School, Blackledge attended Pensacola Junior College and Hinds Junior College in Raymond prior to receiving a bachelor's degree in engineering from MSU.

He is married to the former Rachel A. Muckelrath of Raleigh and they have a 7-year-old daughter, Weslie Ann.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Oct. 22

Gregory selected dislocated worker coordinator at ECCC

Brent Gregory has been named dislocated worker coordinator at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, ECCC president.

Gregory, who begins his new assignment on October 1, 2007, previously served the College as director of student life/recruiter, a position he held since 2001. He began his employment at ECCC in 2000 as men's dormitory supervisor and activity and fitness center director.

Gregory is a former coach and teacher at Nanih Waiya High School and Bogue Chitto Middle School.

A graduate of Nanih Waiya High School and ECCC, Gregory holds a bachelor's degree in physical education and master's in workforce training development, both from the University of Southern Mississippi.

Brent Gregory

He is married to the former Christi Lee of Philadelphia, who serves as ECCC's career-technical counselor. They have a daughter, McKinley, and are expecting another child later this year. The family resides in Decatur.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Oct. 29

Deborah Lucroy named new ECCC maintenance secretary

Deborah Lucroy was recently selected secretary to the director of maintenance at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

Lucroy, a Decatur resident, was previously employed as financial assistant at Mississippi Primary Health Care Association in Newton, a position she held for the past six years.

Deborah Lucroy

She is a 1972 graduate of Neshoba Central High School and received an associate's degree from ECCC in 2001.

She is married to Roy N. Lucroy and they have a daughter, Miranda Whittle of Philadelphia, and three grandchildren.

They attend Pine Grove Church of God.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

Faculty

WEEK OF Oct. 29

sday, October 31, 2007

McLemore Named Master Automobile Technician... Scott McLemore (right) of Chunky, automotive technology instructor at East Central Community College in Decatur, recently qualified as a Master Automobile Technician following completion of coursework as required by the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence. McLemore excelled in numerous areas on the exams, including engine repair, automatic trans/transaxle, manual drive train and axles, suspension and steering, brakes, electrical/electronic systems, heating and air conditioning and engine performance. He is shown receiving a certificate of completion from Wayne Eason, dean of career-technical education. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Oct 29

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Chekwa named ECCC basketball assistant

From press reports

Blessing Chekwa was recently named assistant women's basketball coach at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced head coach Billy Smith.

Prior to joining the ECCC coaching staff, she was a four-year member on the Mississippi State University Lady Bulldog squad, where she started as a freshman. She received the best defensive player award her freshman and senior seasons and participated in the 2003 NCAA tournament.

In addition, she was a member of the 2004-05 Lady Bulldog team that set the record for the longest winning streak in MSU women's basketball history. She was also a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and the MSU Student Athlete Advisory Committee.

Chekwa is a 2002 graduate of John Ehret High School in New Orleans, La., where she was a first team All-District and All-State player. She was named Louisiana's 5-A Player of the Year, was named to the John Ehret's All-Decade Team and had her jersey retired. During her junior season, Chekwa's team won the Louisiana 5-A State Championship.

Chekwa holds a bachelor's degree in kinesiology with a concentration in clinical physiology from MSU.

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APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Oct. 29

Walton named to position at East Central CC

Amanda Walton of Lake was recently named secretary to the dean of adult and continuing education at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

Walton

Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Walton was employed for seven years as customer service representative at Community Bank in Forest.

A graduate of Lake High School, Walton holds an Associate in Arts degree from ECCC. She is currently pursuing a bachelor's degree in education from Mississippi State University.

She is married to Rodney Walton and they have an infant daughter, Madalyn.

They attend Pine Ridge Baptist Church in Lawrence.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Oct. 29

Huguley named ECCC culinary arts instructor

Alexei Huguley of Starkville was recently selected culinary arts technology instructor at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

Alexei Huguley

The new one-year program is offered as an option to the current Hotel and Restaurant Management Technology curriculum. Classes are held at the Choctaw Hospitality Institute in Choctaw.

Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Huguley served as a media associate for distance learning at the University of Alabama. She has also held positions in the food industry, mostly in the Starkville-Columbus area.

A graduate of Starkville Academy, Huguley holds a bachelor's degree in culinary arts with a business minor from Mississippi University for Women and has a master's degree in human environmental science – with concentration in restaurant and hospitality management – from the University of Alabama.

She has two sons, Hunter, 16, and Chase Huguley, 12.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Oct. 29

Former MSU standout joins EC as assistant basketball coach

Blessing Chekwa was recently named assistant women's basketball coach at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced head coach Billy Smith.

Prior to joining the ECCC coaching staff, she was a four-year member on the Mississippi State University Lady Bulldog squad, where she started as a freshman. She received the best defensive player award her freshman and senior seasons and participated in the 2003 NCAA tournament.

In addition, she was a member of the 2004-05 Lady Bulldog team that set the record for the longest winning streak in MSU women's basketball history. She was also a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and the MSU Student Athlete Advisory Committee.

Chekwa is a 2002 graduate of John Ehret High School in New Orleans, La., where she was a first team All-District and All-State player. She was named Louisiana's 5-A Player of the Year, was named to the John Ehret's All-Decade Team and had her jersey retired. During her junior season, Chekwa's team won the Louisiana 5-A State Championship.

Chekwa holds a bachelor's degree in kinesiology with a concentration in clinical physiology from MSU.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Oct. 29

SUBMITTED PHOTO

ECCC 'LAUDERDALE COUNTY' ADJUNCT INSTRUCTORS

These Lauderdale County teachers are members of the East Central Community College Adjunct Faculty for 2007-08. Pictured are: seated, from left, Marilyn Brown (mathematics) and Capri Brooks (educational psychology), both of Meridian; and standing, from left, Bob Schwanebeeck (Life of Christ), Faga Samdumu (chemistry) and Lamar Neal (government), all of Meridian; and William Yount (history and sociology) of Lauderdal.. They joined other adjunct faculty members at a pre-session workshop held on the Decatur campus.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

ECCC Board of Trustees

Board of Trustees for East Central Community College in Decatur include, front row, from left, Beverly Hart, Union, Lois Cooper, Decatur, Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth, Lake, Randal Livingston, Louisville, William Kitchings and Melanie Hartley, Leake County Supt of Education, both of Carthage; Patsy Clark, Louisville, Annie Stowers, Forest; second row, from left, Rebecca Farris, Morton, Harry Kemp, Louisville, Supt., Louisville Municipal School District; Frank McCurdy, Morton, Scott County Supt. of Education; Ricky Goldman, Philadelphia, Royce Shaw, Board secretary, Forest; Edsel Cliburn, Union, Prentice Copeland, Board chairman, Philadelphia; Jerry Nance, Louisville, and Vernon Crotwell, Morton; and, back row, from left, V.C. Manning, Philadelphia, Leo Parker, Noxapater, David Byars, Philadelphia, Alan Rhea, Carthage, Ken Pouncey, Decatur, Pat Cleveland, Conehatta, Jerry Smith, Philadelphia, Jack Winstead, Board vice chairman, Lawrence; and W.B. Jones, Walnut Grove. Not pictured are Janie Wilbanks and Dr. Kimsey O'Neal Cooper, both of Carthage; Bill Thames, Newton and Delane Hudson, Louisville.

WEEK OF Oct. 29
CLARION-LEDGER
IMPACT
SPIRIT OF MORTON
OTHER

WEEK OF Nov. 12

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Class of 1947

Attend ECCC Class of '47 Reunion
These members of the 1947 graduating class of East Central Community College in Decatur attended reunion activities held during the 2007 homecoming celebration. Observing their 60th class reunion were (seated from left) Coy S. Jefcoat, Meridian; Mary Ann Tabor Sessions, Louisville; Marijo James Denson, Decatur; and Mary Grace Comans Lyle, Union; and (standing from left) L.B. Atkins, Union; Norman "Hoot" Gipson, Columbus; Eloise Rea Stokes, Philadelphia; and Maxine Estes McCool, Louisville. Also pictured is ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Nov. 12

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ECCC 1947 football Warriors

Above are members of East Central Community College's 1947 football team who were reunited during homecoming activities held on the Decatur campus. Pictured are (first row, from left) Jim Wood, Louisville; Lew Burggett, Lilburn, Ga.; Eugene Earp, Baton Rouge; Ray Howell, Philadelphia; and Coach Arno Vincent, Petal; and (back row, from left) Norman "Hoot" Gipson, Philadelphia; Malcolm Phillips, Newton; ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin: and Lebrun "Sibb" Hutchison, Littleton, Colorado.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NEWTON RECORD _____

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Nov. 5

ECCC 5K run award winners

Among award winners in the East Central Community College Homecoming 5K Run were (from left) David Burt of Hickory, first place in the 20 to 29-year-old male category; and Ryan Burkes of Sebastopol and Ryan Chickaway of Philadelphia, first and second, respectively, in the 30 to 39-year-old male category. The event was held as part of the college's annual Homecoming activities Saturday, Oct. 13. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Nov. 12

ECCC PHOTO

Latham represents Class of 77 at East Central reunion

Julie Latham of Morton represented the East Central Community College Class of 1977 during reunion activities held as part of the 2007 homecoming observance. Latham is also a member of the ECCC Athletic Hall of Fame, having been inducted in 1996.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Nov. 12

ECCC PHOTO

ATTEND ECCC CLASS OF '97 REUNION

Kristie Pilgrim (left) of Union and Olivia Hamil Penrod of Fort Stewart, Ga., represented East Central Community College's Class of 1997 at the group's 10-year reunion held during the recent homecoming activities on the Decatur campus. Penrod is a Sebastopol native.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

Event

WEEK OF Nov. 12

Barbour tours ECCC training facility

Special to the Mississippi Business Journal

Gov. Haley Barbour, after speaking at the Governor's Conference on Workforce Development at the Pearl River Resort in late October, took time to tour East Central Community College's Integrated Technologies Training Center located nearby on the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians Reservation. Barbour discussed the various training instruments available to employers and workforce members at the center with Roger Whitlock, dean of workforce training at ECCC. In this photo, a computer integrated manufacturing line (mini-CIM) complete with a mill, lathe and robotic material handling is demonstrated.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER MS Business Journal

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Nov. 12

Former ECCC Basketball Warriors meet

These members of the 1952-53, 1953-54 and 1954-55 East Central Community College men's championship basketball teams were honored during homecoming activities held on the Decatur campus. Pictured are (seated from left) Harry Clinton Smith, Philadelphia; Bob Lassetter, Tuscaloosa; Dr. Leo Russell, Brandon; Derrell Thomas, Mobile; John C. Williams, Brandon; Coach Clayton Blount, Decatur; and Arno Vincent of Petal, ECCC's president from 1953-62; and (standing from left) Joe Lee Johnson, Madison; A. G. Robinson, Pascagoula; J. P. Hurst, Hickory; James Griffin, Grenada; Charlie Thrash, Walnut Grove; James Lowery, Georgiana, Ala.; and Joe Clark, Decatur. Also pictured is ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin. The 1952-53 squad captured region and state titles and finished fourth in the NJCAA Tournament. The 1953-54 team won the region championship, Lions Bowl Tournament and finished fourth in the NJCAA Tournament . The 1954-55 squad won region and conference titles, Hinds Invitational and Lions Bowl and also finished fourth in the NJCAA Tournament. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Nov. 19

Attend ECCC Class of '87 reunion

Steve Hardy of Clinton represented his 1987 East Central Community College classmates at the group's 20-year reunion held during the recent homecoming observance on the Decatur campus. Hardy is shown with his wife, the former Nancy Bagwell, a member of the Class of 1989. Nancy was among former homecoming queens who were also honored during homecoming. Steve is originally from Philadelphia and Nancy is a Louisville native. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Nov. 19

Observe 50th ECCC class reunion

Recently observing their 50th class reunion at East Central Community College were (seated from left) Mildred Madden Pace, Decatur; Sandra Skinner Kuykendall, Geiger, Ala; Mattie Ruth Comans Oberkrom, Dayton, Ohio; and Patsy Mowdy Vance, Meridian; (second row, from left) Nelda Burns Madden, Gulfport; Nan Barrier Stamper, Philadelphia; Jane Ann Lloyd Mason, Clinton; Carole Pace Henry, Madison; Terry Wayne Cannon, Birmingham; David McKeehan, Athens, Tenn.; Donnie Hopkins, Jackson; Rudye Woodruff, Marietta, Ga.; (third row, from left) Gay Davidson Barnett, Slidell, La.; Clarence Foreman, Jackson; Larry Adams, Jackson; Mickey Burdette, Lanett, Ala.; Charles Mooney, Mobile; Charles Germany, Vicksburg; and James Vance, Meridian; (fourth row, from left) Bill Lovett, Forest; Norman McKay, Chalmette, La.; Lee Ann Rogers Germany, Vicksburg; and Harvey Trapp, Newton; (fifth row, from left) Bobbie Jones Marshall, Hattiesburg; Eugenia Carlton Baucum, Wiggins; Maggie Jo Dallas Hicks, Lucedale; Charles Hall, Forest; and Harry Carter, Philadelphia; and (sixth row, from left) Clay Sanders, Jacksonville, Fla.; Raymond McMullan, Ridgeland; Joe Hendrix, Columbus; Lester Baucum, Wiggins; Thurman Alley, Brandon; ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin; and George Skinner, Hattiesburg. Dr. Sutphin presented "special diplomas" to the 1957 class members in recognition of their Golden Anniversary. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Nov. 19

Award winners in ECCC 5K run

Receiving awards in the East Central Community College Homecoming 5K Run were (from left) Delanie Henry of Philadelphia, first place, Linnie Reynolds of Meridian, second, Emily Thompson of Brandon, third and Marsha Chickaway of Philadelphia, fourth, all in the 20 to 29-year-old female category; and Kim Crenshaw of Meridian, first place, in the 30 to 39-year-old female category. Not pictured is Misty Hunt of Starkville, second, 30 to 39-year-olds. The event was held as part of the college's annual Homecoming activities Saturday, Oct. 13. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

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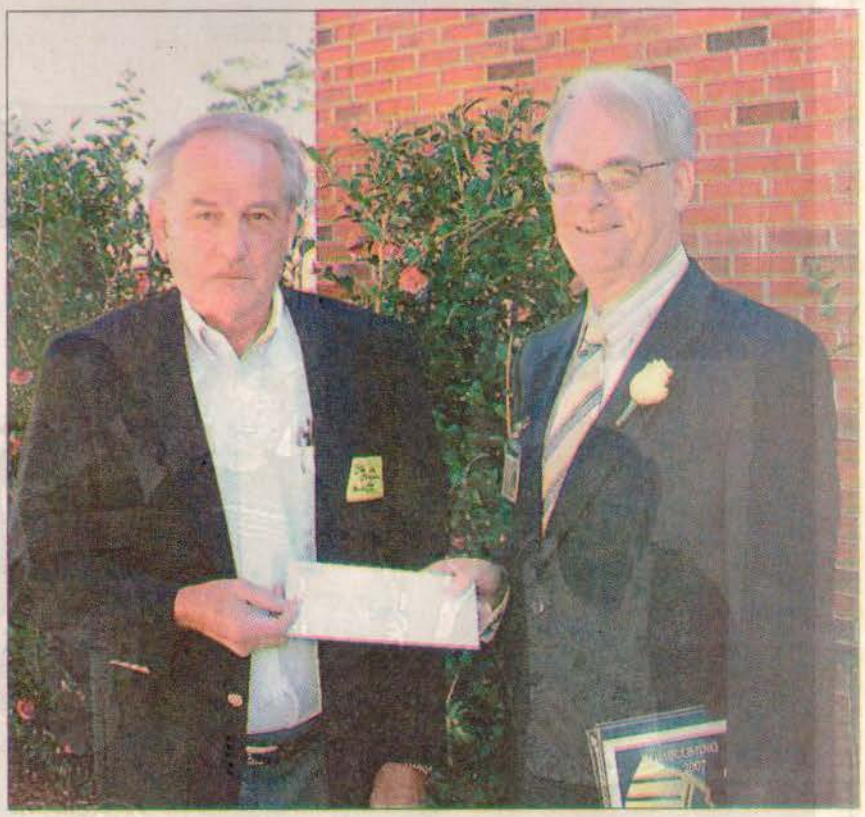
Alumni

WEEK OF Dec. 3

Johnson Family establishes ECCC Engineering Scholarship



SUBMITTED PHOTO

SCHOLARSHIP ESTABLISHED

Joe Johnson of Brandon, left, presents a $20,000 check to East Centr Community College President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin to endow The Johnso Family Engineering Scholarship. Johnson, a 1956 ECCC graduate, and siblings established the scholarship in memory of their parents, Lee E. Johnson and Lizzie Graham Johnson.

special to The Star

DECATUR – A scholarship in memory of Lee E. Johnson and Lizzie Graham Johnson has been endowed at East Central Community College.

The Johnson Family Engineering Scholarship was established by the couple's children, Joe Lee and Ollie J. Johnson, John and Elsie Johnson Hollingsworth, Charlie R. Johnson and Danny E. Johnson.

The scholarship will be awarded to a resident of Newton County and preferably a graduate of Newton County High School. The scholarship recipient must enroll as a fulltime freshman student at ECCC following graduation from high school and maintain a 3.0 grade point average.

In addition, the scholarship recipient must major in engineering with the intent of enrolling in civil engineering at Mississippi State University.

A sophomore may also qualify for the award, which will be based on earnings from the endowment corpus.

Scholarship recipients will be selected by the college's Scholarship Committee.

For more information contact ECCC Student Services, (601) 635-2111 or call toll free, (877) 462-3222, ext. 375. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu.

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WINSTON COUNTY

SPIRIT OF MORTON

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WEEK OF Dec. 3

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC HOMECOMING QUEENS RECOGNIZED

Former East Central Community College homecoming queens were among groups honored during homecoming activities held on the Decatur campus. In attendance for the special recognition were (first row, from left) Nancy Bagwell Hardy (Class of 1989), Clinton; Sherrell Brown ('06), Forest; Shelly Ferguson ('05), Hickory; and Emily Boggan Thompson ('01) and Lois Woodward Pennington ('43), both of Decatur; (second row, from left) Patsy Dunigan Clark ('60), Louisville; Deborah Barnes Owen ('75), Philadelphia; Deborah Dianne Pierce Moore ('70), Stafford, Virginia; and Anna Cornelia Wright Grimes ('68), Carthage; and (back row, from left) Coy Smith Jefcoat ('47), Meridian; Dayna Williamson Morgan ('84), Philadelphia; Carolyn Marshall McCraney ('58), Chatworth, Ga.; and Bobbie Jones Marshall ('57), Hattiesburg. Also pictured is ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin. Also in attendance but not pictured is Ann Earp ('47) of Baton Rouge.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Dec. 17

Culinary Arts is newest addition to EC Career-Technical offerings

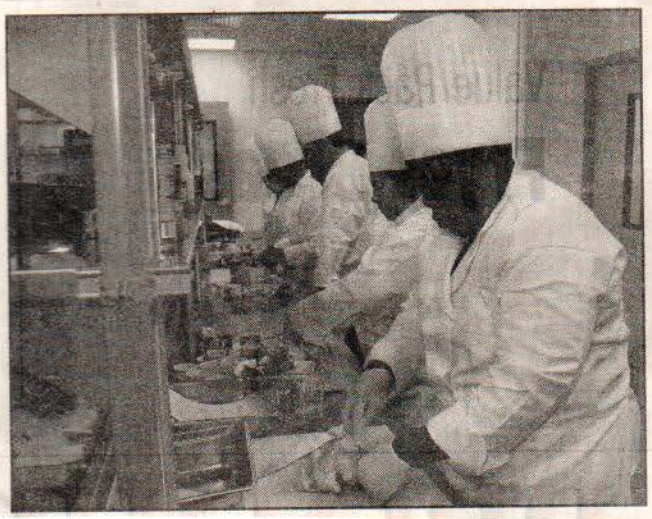
Culinary Arts is the newest program option in the East Central Community College Division of Career-Technical Education.

A one-year certificate program, Culinary Arts Technology teaches the methods and science of cooking, as well as the art of baking and pastries. Special emphasis is placed on culinary tools, equipment, techniques and specialty ingredients. Courses are taught at the Choctaw Hospitality Institute in Choctaw, alongside the College's Hotel and Restaurant Management Technology program. Hands-on lab instruction is provided by a chef instructor in a commericial kitchen.

Alexei Huguley of Starkville serves as instructor for the new program. Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Huguley served as a media associate for distance learning at the University of Alabama. She has also held positions in the food industry, mostly in the Starkville-Columbus area.

A graduate of Starkville Academy, Huguley holds a bachelor's degree in culinary arts with a business minor from Mississippi University for Women and has a master's degree in human environmental science – with concentration in restaurant and hospitality management – from the University of Alabama.

For more information contact Wayne Eason, Dean of Career-Technical Education, at 601-635-2111, ext. 211.



Students in the new Culinary Arts program at East Central Community College are shown preparing a chicken recipe.

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

Board

WEEK OF Dec. 17

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC PRESIDENT PRESENTS LEGISLATIVE WISH LIST

East Central Community College Dr. Phil A. Sutphin (left) talks with area legislators following his PowerPoint presentation regarding funding priorities proposed by the state's community and junior colleges for the upcoming session of the Mississippi Legislature. Dr. Sutphin said the three goals for fiscal year 2009 are mid-level per student funding, capital improvements and high school dropout recovery. The wish list is included in the ongoing Mississippi Values campaign sponsored by the two-year colleges. Shown with the ECCC leader are (from left) Senator Giles Ward of Louisville, Representatives Scott Bounds of Philadelphia, Billy Nicholson of Union and Russ Nowell of Louisville, and Senator Terry C. Burton of Newton. The presentation was made at the College's annual legislative appreciation luncheon held on the Decatur campus. Also in attendance at the luncheon meeting were several ECCC Board of Trustees members and College personnel.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES √

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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IMPACT _____

WEEK OF March 5/07

ECCC to conclude spring football Wednesday

■ Intra-squad scrimmage set to start at 3:30 p.m.

Special to The Record

An intra-squad scrimmage scheduled at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 7 will wrap up spring workouts for East Central Community College's football team, announced head coach Terry Underwood.

Underwood

Underwood said approximately 45 players came out for spring practice, which began on February 5. He said the squad took advantage of most of the 20 days allowed for spring drills, not only working on offense, defense and the kicking game, but also on placement of personnel.

"We worked a lot on putting players in the right position, and I'm very pleased with the results. We were also able to pinpoint our strengths and weaknesses as we prepare for the fall season," Underwood stated.

Among the 45 players competing for spots on the team are 17 mid-year transfers. Coach Underwood also signed approximately 20 high school seniors who will report in August for fall practice.

East Central begins the 2007 season by traveling to East Mississippi Community College in Scooba on Thursday, Aug. 30. Kickoff is set for 6:30 p.m.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD √

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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IMPACT _____

EC football players move to next level

■ Safety Ingram inks with Florida State, Lake's Hickmon signs with Middle Tennessee.

Special to The Record

Hickmon

Christmas came early for eight members of the 2006 East Central Community College football squad who signed letters of intent recently to continue their athletic careers on the university or four-year college level, announced Warrior head coach Terry Underwood.

At the top of the list is free safety Kenny Ingram of Orlando, who returns to Florida State University after a one-year stint at ECCC. Ingram (6-6, 215), was listed among the state's top JUCO prospects in The Clarion-Ledger.

Other mid-year transfers include linebackers Ivon Hickmon of Lake and Andrew Harrington of DeKalb, now with Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro; defensive end Keith Spann of Clinton, who signed with University of Tennessee-Martin; offensive linemen Kerry Hudson of Philadelphia and Mentral Ledbetter of Louisville, tapped by the University of West Alabama in Livingston; quarterback Mike Dunn of Orlando, who joined the University of Arkansas-Monticello squad; and defensive back Darnell Lytle of Collins, who's now attending Pikeville College in Pikeville, Kentucky.

Ingram was a first-year starter for the Warriors, earning honorable mention All-State honors after registering 34 solo tackles and 15 assists. He also had one interception. He is a product of Edgewater High School in Orlando.

Hickmon (6-1, 206), a two-year starter, received ECCC's Most

See **FOOTBALL**, Page 2B

Football

From Page 1B

Valuable Player Award in 2006 and was chosen defensive team captain. He was also selected an MACJC All-Star and was named second team All-State. He was among the top tacklers for last season, registering 46 solo stops and 27 assists. He also had two interceptions and a fumble recovery. He is a product of Lake High School.

Harrington (6-2, 205), also a two-year starter, led EC in tackles with 57 and had 18 assists. He also recovered a fumble. He was chosen an MACJC All-Star and was selected honorable mention All-State. Harrington is a product of Kemper County High School.

Spann (6-2, 255), another two-year starter, was chosen the Warriors' most valuable defensive lineman in 2006. He had 38 tackles, 14 assists, four quarterback sacks and two forced fumbles. He was named an MACJC All-Star and was chosen second team All-State. Spann is a product of Clinton High School.

Two-year starter Hudson (5-11, 290) was named the Warriors' most valuable offensive lineman for 2006. He was also selected an MACJC All-Star and was named first team All-State. Hudson is a product of Philadelphia High School.

Ledbetter (5-11, 272), also a two-year starter, was named honorable mention All-State. He is a product of Louisville High School.

Dunn (5-11, 189), a first-year starter and transfer from Bethune-Cookman, completed 74 of 130 passes (57 percent) for 826 yards and two touchdowns. He also registered seven interceptions. He was named to the honorable mention All-State squad. Dunn is a product of Edgewater High School in Orlando.

Lytle (6-1, 180), a first-year starter, posted 20 tackles and 10 assists. He was also named honorable mention All-State. Lytle is a product of Collins High School.

Regarding the mid-year signees, Coach Underwood said he is "very happy" for the young athletes as they begin new careers on the gridiron.

"Everyone did a great job for us, and I wish them well," Underwood stated.

Underwood said he anticipates several other Warriors players to sign the dotted line during the spring semester.

EC football players move to next level

■ Several East Central Community College football players have signed letters of intent to play at four-year universities.

– Page 1B

SPIRIT OF MORTON

OTHER

WEEK OF Jan. 8/07

ECCC sends several area football standouts to four-year colleges

from school reports

Christmas came early for eight members of the 2006 East Central Community College football squad who signed letters of intent last month to continue their careers on the university or four-year college level, announced Warrior head coach Terry Underwood.

At the top of the list is free safety Kenny Ingram of Orlando, who returns to Florida State University after a one-year stint at ECCC

Other mid-year transfers include linebackers Ivon Hickmon of Lake and Andrew Harrington of DeKalb, now with Middle Tennessee State University; defensive end Keith Spann of Clinton, who signed with University of Tennessee-Martin; offensive linemen Kerry Hudson of Philadelphia and Mentral Ledbetter of Louisville, tapped by the University of West Alabama; quarterback Mike Dunn of Orlando, who joined the University of Arkansas-Monticello squad; and defensive back Darnell Lytle of Collins, who's now attending Pikeville (Ken.) College.

Hickmon (6-1, 206), a two-year starter, received ECCC's most valuable player award in 2006 and was chosen defensive team captain. He was also selected an MACJC All-Star and was named second team All-State.

Harrington (6-2, 205), also a two-year starter, led EC in tackles with 57 and had 18 assists. The former Kemper County standout also recovered a fumble. He was chosen an MACJC All-Star and was selected honorable mention All-State.

Two-year starter Hudson (5-11, 290) was named the Warriors' most valuable offensive lineman for 2006. He was also selected an MACJC All-Star and was named first team All-State. Hudson is a product of Philadelphia High School.

Underwood said he anticipates several other Warriors players to sign in the spring.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

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IMPACT _____

Cheatham returns to ECCC

Steve Cheatham returns to the East Central Community College football staff after serving the past two seasons as head coach at Neshoba Central High School.

Cheatham will serve as assistant head coach and defensive coordinator, announced athletic director and head football coach Terry Underwood.

Steve Cheatham

Cheatham, a 29-year coaching veteran, previously served as an assistant to Underwood during the 2001, 2002, and 2003 football seasons.

"Coach Cheatham is very familiar with our district and will help with district recruiting for athletics and student recruiting. In addition, he has many associates with out-of-state ties that will aid us in our out-of-state recruiting efforts," said Terry Underwood.

Cheatham's six-year record as head coach at Neshoba Central and Philadelphia is 40-26-1. He has 13 years experience as a defensive coordinator.

Cheatham's replacement at Neshoba Central will be Chuck Friend, who compiled a 103-42-1-record with the Rockets from 1982-93.

WEEK OF March 26/07

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

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IMPACT _____

WEEK OF March 12/07

East Central wraps up spring football drills

• An infusion of mid-year transfers and new schemes on offense and defense has East Central Community College football coach Terry Underwood excited about the upcoming season.

– Page 1B

ECCC

From Page 1B

"Steve's a guy who has worked with us before and brings a lot of experience and intensity to the table," Underwood said. "He's got 29 years of experience and has worked at Clemson and Ole Miss and been a successful high school coach. We'll be running some 4-2-5 and doing some different things out of that. It's similar to what we have done in the past and I think it matches up well against the spread teams we'll see in our league right now."

Underwood sang the praises of several mid-year transfers that he hopes will lead the Warriors back to the playoffs. Among those is former Tuscaloosa County quarterback Deon Williams who transferred from Valdosta State. Also expected to make a big impact is former Northeast Lauderdale quarterback Maurice Langston who will likely split time at running back with sophomore Mike Dunn.

"Deon is a guy who could have played Division 1 football," Underwood said. "He has come in and done a good job in the spring and has a chance to be the best quarterback we've had in quite a while. Maurice Langston ran the football well in the spring. He's just the kind of player who is great with the ball in his hands."

Affter Williams and Langston, Underwood said defensive players Henry Scott at nose guard and Kevin Marshall at linebacker both had solid springs.

On offense, Underwood mentioned former Tuscaloosa County wide receiver Tyler Walker and former Northeast Lauderdale wide receiver Lamar Truman as having good springs as well as James Jenkins who could see time on either the offensive or defensive lines.

Running the No. 2 quarterback was another mid-year transfer Jarvis Wilson whom Underwood said would see some playing time somewhere.

"This is probably the best crop if mid-year transfers that we've had since I've been here," Underwood said. "We've worked hard at bringing those guys in and trying to get better. We'll get on the weights now and try to get stronger."

APPEARED IN:

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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IMPACT _____

3/12/07

ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

East Central Community College football coach Terry Underwood talks with his team after the conclusion of spring football practice last week.

Mid-years impress at EC

By Robbie Robertson
The Newton Record

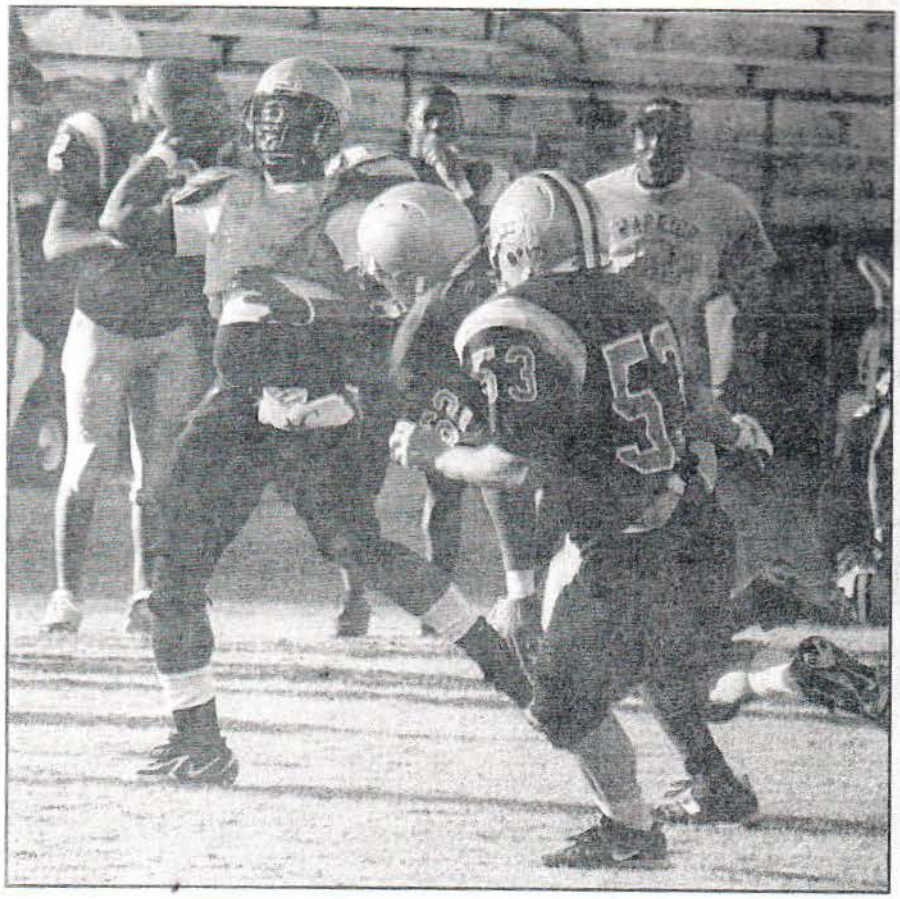
For the East Central Community College football team, it was out with the old and in with the new old stuff this spring.

The Warriors wrapped up their spring football drills last Wednesday with a spirited workout as players on both sides of the football learned new schemes.

"I thought we had a good, positive spring and the kids had a good attitude," ECCC coach Terry Underwood said. "We put in the changes we made on offense with our two-back set and learned our new base defense. We moved some people around and tried to find the fit for some players. We didn't get anybody hurt and had some decent contact."

Underwood said he was assuming the play-calling duties on offense, taking over for Mike Volarvich after two years of experimenting with the spread offense. Then on defense, the Warriors went back to an old scheme as new assistant head coach Steve Cheatham will be the defensive coordinator.

See **ECCC**, Page 2B



ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

East Central Community College's Deon Williams, a transfer from Valdosta State, throws a touchdown pass as he scrambles

July 23

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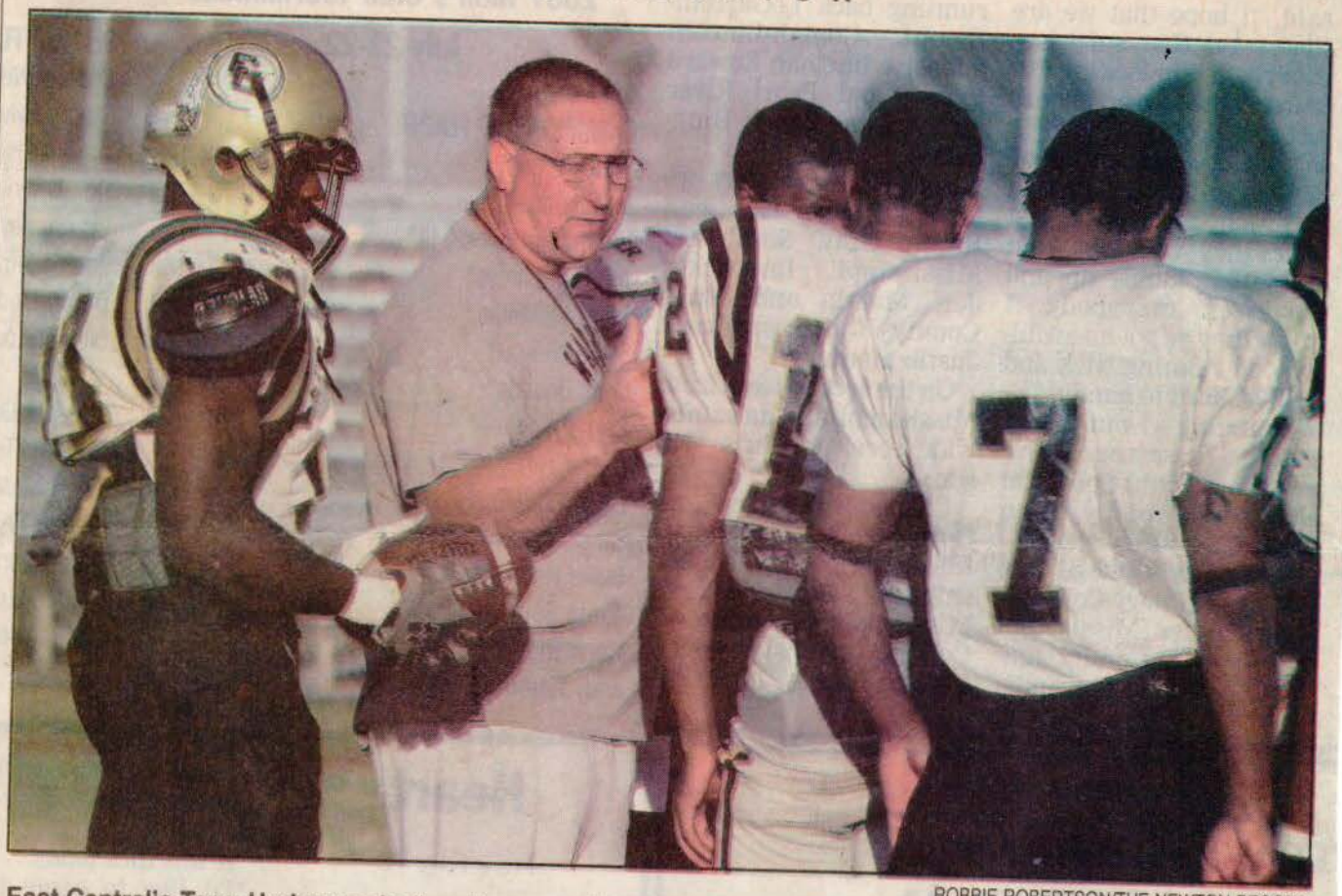

ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

East Central's Terry Underwood talks with some of his offensive players at the end of East Central's spring football drills earlier this year.

WEEK OF Dec. 31

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC FLAG FOOTBALL RUNNERS-UP

"Champs" finished second in the intramural flag football competition held recently at East Central Community College in Decatur. Team members include (kneeling from left) Keith Brown, Cody Shaw and Tyler Walters, all of Forest; Jonathan Worrell, Kosciusko; Joseph Ciegio, David Mart and Matt Wade, all of Forest; and (standing from left) Jason Yarbrough, Philadelphia; Ryan Reeves, Forest; Zach Boswell, Louisville; and Drew Crowell, Dustin Forsythe and Josh Ledford, all of Forest. ECCC women's softball coach Scott Hill serves as director of intramurals.

APPEARED IN:

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Dec. 24

ECCC Squad Wins State Flag Football Title!

East Central Community College's intramural football team took top honors in the second annual MACJC Flag Football Championship held recently at Tatum Park in Hattiesburg. The ECCC squad edged Jones County Junior College 20-19 to claim the championship plaque, displayed above. Also participating in the double-elimination event were teams from Gulf Coast, Southwest and host Pearl River. ECCC team members and their respective high schools include (kneeling from left) Jonathan Worrell, Kosciusko; Ken Robinson, Neshoba Central; Dustin Forsythe and David Mart, both of Forest; Drew Crowell, East Rankin Academy; Cody Shaw, Forest; and Jarrod Holloway, Neshoba Central; and (standing from left) Coach Scott Hill, director of intramurals; Tyler Walters, Forest; Jeremy Holmes and Cameron Gates, both of Philadelphia; Brent Blackwell, Nanih Waiya; Keith Brown, Forest; and Justin Boone, Louisville. Not pictured is Deon Hudson of Noxapater. The championship squad was recognized during a recent ECCC home basketball game. (EC Photo

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

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OTHER _____

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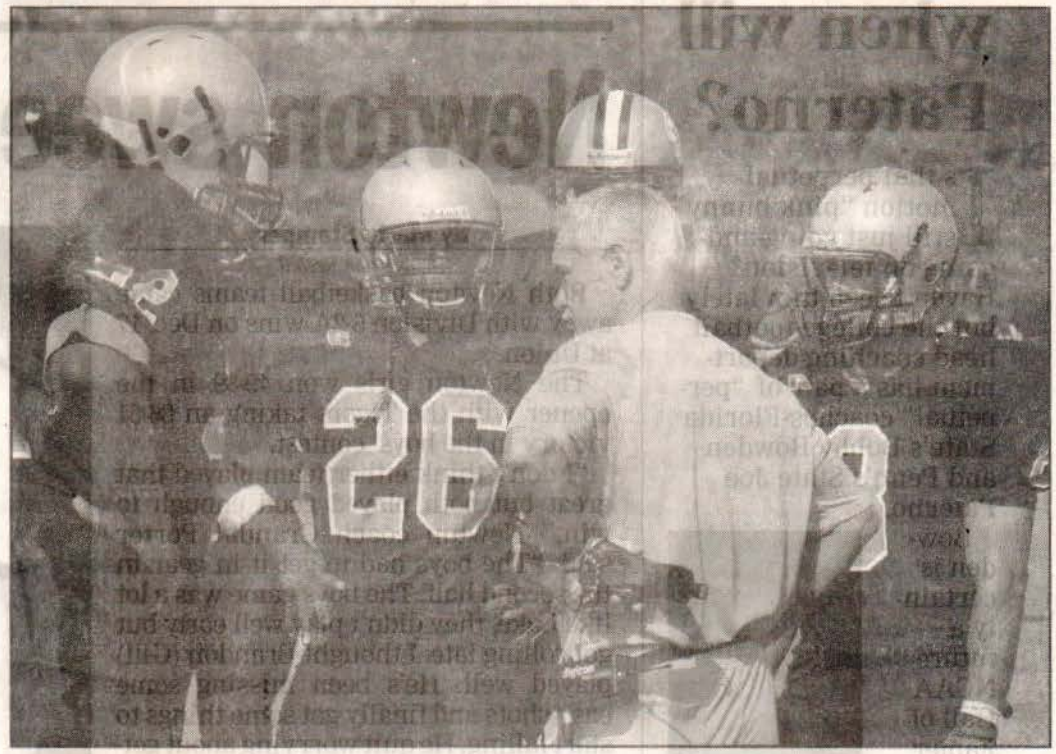
Dec. 24

Record Wednesday, December 26, 2007

East Central football coach



ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

East Central's Steve Cheatham talks with his defensive players in a pre-season scrimmage. Cheatham was named the new head coach at the Decatur junior college on Tuesday.

For those who don't know much about Cheatham, here's what I do know.

Having worked at Ole Miss and Clemson, Cheatham is well connected in the senior college ranks. Don't be surprised to see East Central benefit from that.

Cheatham is a defensive coach at heart, always has and probably always will be. He believes in playing solid, technique football. His defenses don't rely on fancy schemes to win games, just solid execution.

I know he communicates well with college kids, even today. I could tell that early on after watching East Central practice a little.

And finally, Cheatham will bring some enthusiasm to the field. He's always been a passionate coach and always asked his players to play with passion.

While Cheatham has never been a head coach at the junior college level, he's more than qualified. He's probably seen more football than any of us can ever imagine.

Will he win at East Central? That's a hard one to answer. Because coaching and desire can only take you so far. In the end, you have to have athletes to win at junior college football and in that respect, he'll be facing the same problems that former coach Terry Underwood faced.

Can it be done? Sure, it has been before but note on a consistent basis. Can Cheatham do it? That's to be determined.

Well coach, let me be the first to say good luck and happy hunting on the recruiting trail the next few week.

Robbie Robertson is editor and publisher of The Newton Record.

WEEK OF Dec. 24

The Newton

I go back a long way with new

Here's part two of the East Central Community College coaching story from the view of this old editor.

On Tuesday, Steve Cheatham became the new head football coach at East Central Community College after serving as defensive coordinator for one year.

I've known Steve Cheatham since I was in the seventh grade, but got to know him better as an eighth grader at Neshoba Central.

Steve was the ninth grade football coach at Neshoba and unlike some junior high football programs, I remember it being pretty intense. As a matter of fact, we had spring training and even played a spring football game. This particular year, the game was against West Point.

The night before, the high school team had played a good game against the Green Wave, winning a close game.

Then we played that Saturday morning in West Point. Now to put this in perspective, this was 1985 and this was the class of West Point that went on to win three straight state championships.

I remember little from the game except for West Point running up and down the field on us. They had a little running back, a Barry Sanders like kid, that we couldn't seem to get our hands on. In the end, they beat us 42-0 and it really wasn't that close. We were really outclassed and it was a total beat-down. It's not that we were that bad, they were just that good – as they went on to show in later years.

That's easy to say now, but it wasn't so easy to say then. To say the least, Coach Cheatham was not a happy camper.

He told us we had embarrassed ourselves, the school and all of the coaches. He then said the words I'll never forget, he was going to find out "who wanted to play football."

The next few weeks were rough as he ran our hind ends off and put us through all sorts of rigorous physical tasks. At one point, during one workout,

Robbie Robertson

I breathed a not-so-nice word under my breath – not necessarily at him but just in general, honest, but he thought it was directed at him.

This part I remember vividly.

"What did you say?" he asked.

"Nothing sir," I responded.

"What did you call me? What did you say? Come on, be a man and say it to my face."

So I bucked up and repeated the word. Since this is a family newspaper, I won't repeat it but something about a son comes to mind.

At that point, he sent the rest of the group in. My classmates since first grade looked at me like I had been given a death sentence. The next week or so was pretty rough as he attempted to run the swearing out of me, which I think he did at some point.

And for that skinny eighth grader – and for those who know me now, yes, I was once skinny – with a smart mouth, I learned to keep my mouth shut. It was a tough lesson to learn but one that has served me well to this day and one I won't forget.

Even though Steve and I didn't always get along, I realize now he was just doing his job, trying to help young punks become young men. After I became a sports writer at The Meridian Star, we made our peace when he was head coach at Philadelphia. He even seemed glad to see me during media day at East Central this year. He did make me feel a little bit old when he told me his daughter, whom I remember as a little thing, had graduated from college and was working as a dental hygeniest. Oh, how time flies.

Now here we are, some 20 years after that episode and I'm running a newspaper and Cheatham is the new head football coach at East Central.

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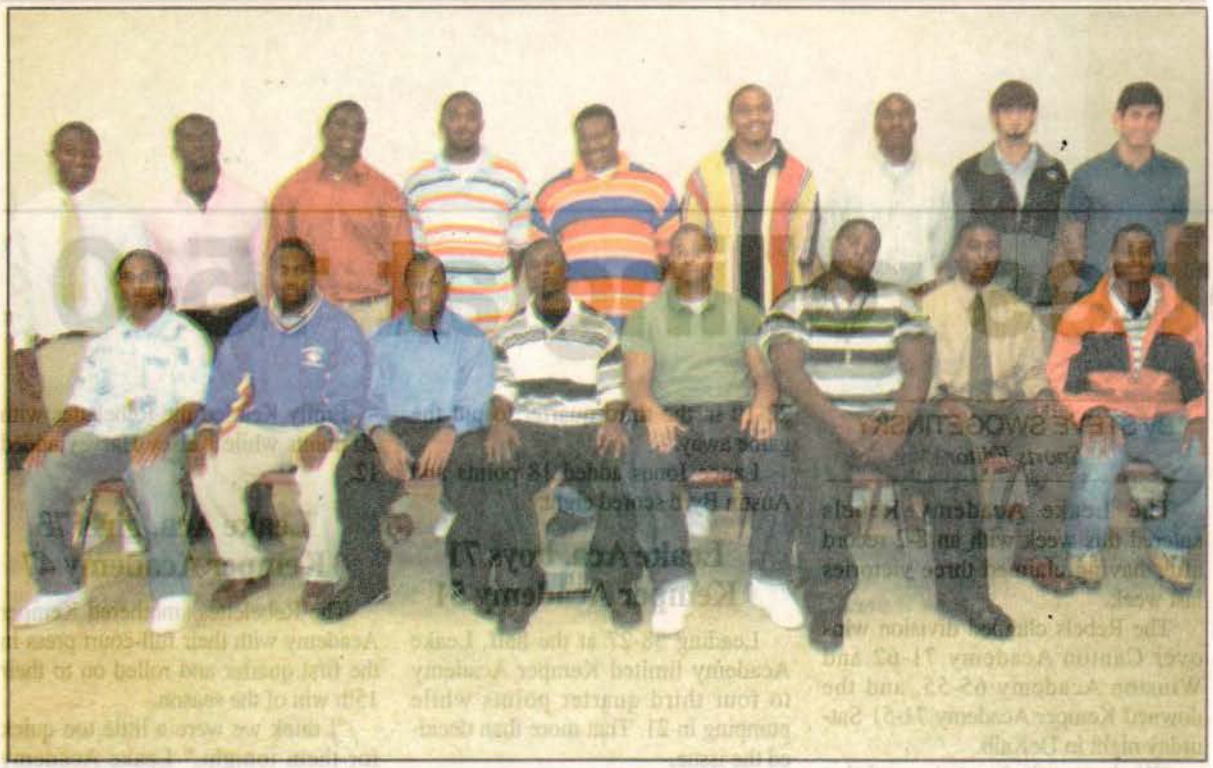
WEEK OF Dec. 17



EC Warriors names honorable mention, All-State

Members of the East Central Community College football squad who were chosen honorable mention All-State following the 2007 campaign, are, seated from left, cornerback Dameon Brown, Thomastown; linebacker Harvey Brown, Neshoba Central; wide receiver Kendrick May, Tuscaloosa County; cornerback Travis Robinson, Hillcrest HS, Tuscaloosa; tight end Spencer Spane, Terry; offensive lineman Marquis Harris, Meridian; wide receiver Michael Townsend, Forest; and defensive lineman Ken Whitfield, Louisville. Standing from left are cornerback Fredrick Lyons, Newton County; linebacker Jamar Lawrence, Tuscaloosa County; offensive tackle John Bailey, Hillcrest; defensive end Chris Ivy and defensive end Mark Hoskins, both of Louisville; linebacker Vonzell Jackson, Aliceville, Ala.; strong safety Ken Coleman, Louisville; and kickers/punters Beau Hannah of Morton and Derek Crenshaw, Neshoba Central. Not pictured are defensive lineman Quan Lowe, Holt HS, Tuscaloosa; running back Lamario Hopson, Meridian; wide receiver Katlan French, Starkville Academy; fullback Courtney Shelton, Tuscaloosa Academy; defensive end Josh Lewis, Tuscaloosa County; and offensive lineman Justin Moore, Leake Academy. (EC Photo)

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Dec. 17

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ____
NEWTON RECORD ✓
MERIDIAN STAR ____
CLARION-LEDGER ____
IMPACT ____

Underwood out, Cheatham in at EC

Terry Underwood has resigned as head football coach at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

Underwood's resignation was approved during today's monthly meeting of the College's Board of Trustees. Dr. Sutphin said Underwood will remain on staff as athletic director until his contract expires on June 30, 2008. A new athletic director will be named "at a later date."

Steve Cheatham, who served the past year as Underwood's defensive coordinator, has been named as Underwood's successor effective Jan. 3, 2008, said Dr. Sutphin.

Underwood

In recommending the coaching veteran as the College's 19th head football coach, Dr. Sutphin said Cheatham "...is a man of integrity and has demonstrated a total commitment to the best interest of the Warrior football program."

Cheatham is busy on the recruiting trail while also in the process of putting together a staff of assistants.

Cheatham

Prior to rejoining the ECCC staff last year, Cheatham served two years as head football coach at Neshoba Central High School. He served the previous two years as director of football operations at the University of Mississippi.

The 30-year coaching veteran was an assistant to Coach Underwood during the 2001-03 campaigns.

Cheatham is also a former head football coach at Philadelphia High School and served as an assistant at Dothan (Ala.) and Neshoba Central high schools. His coaching experience also includes a stint as a graduate assistant at Clemson University.

His six-year record as head coach is 46-20.

A 1974 graduate of Neshoba Central High School, Cheatham attended ECCC from 1974-76 and received a bachelor's degree in health, physical education and recreation from Mississippi State University in 1978. He earned a master's degree in secondary guidance and counseling from Clemson University in 1995.

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WEEK OF Dec. 17

EC...

Continued from 3B...

Livingston of Louisville said of the selection process.

"I don't think it makes any difference who we hire if we don't give whoever it is our full support," added board member Vernon Crotwell of Morton.

Former EC head coach Ken Pouncey, who coached the Warriors from 1967-81 and is a current board member, said, "There's no reason we can't have as good a football team as anybody.

"I thought they had a good team this last year. But they don't ask how, they ask how many (you win)."

In Underwood's decade, his teams won 40 games while losing 53. In the brutal South Division, EC was 22-38.

The Warriors finished in the South Division basement the last two years with identical 0-6 marks.

Underwood's high-water mark came in 1999, his second year as head coach, as the Warriors went 8-3. The team was the South Division runner-up and made the state playoffs, losing 40-12 at Northwest Mississippi Community College in the semifinals.

The Warriors also had winning seasons in 2000 and 2001, going 6-4 both years. The '01 team was the South Division runner-up and lost 10-7 at Mississippi Delta Community College in the semifinals.

Prior to taking over as head coach, Underwood was an assistant to Willie Coats for three years with the Warriors going 19-12 over that span. The 1996 team went 10-1, beating Middle Georgia College 7-6 in the Huddle House Golden Isles Bowl Classic.

A native of Neshoba County, Cheatham returned to EC this past fall to serve as defensive coordinator/assistant head coach.

He spent the previous two years as head coach at Neshoba Central with the Rockets going 1-9 in 2005 and 4-6 in 2006.

Cheatham began his coaching career as an assistant and defensive coordinator from 1978-93 during the Rockets' glory years. Under head coaches Bobby Posey, Fred Kirkland, and Chuck Friend, those teams went 117-66-3. The Rockets were Class 4A state runner-up in 1989, 1990, and 1992.

Steve Cheatham

He went to Clemson University as a graduate assistant from 1993-96.

During the 1996-97 school year, Cheatham was assistant coach/defensive coordinator at Dothan (Ala.) High School.

He returned to Mississippi as head football coach at Philadelphia from 1997-2001 with the Tornadoes going 35-11-1 during his tenure. All five teams made the playoffs.

Cheatham then went to Ole Miss as Director of Football Operations from 2003-05.

He is a graduate of Neshoba Central, ECCC, and Mississippi State.

APPEARED IN:

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

Dec. 17

Underwood out, Cheatham in at EC

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

After 10 years as head football coach at East Central Community College, Terry Underwood won't be back on the Warrior sideline next fall.

Terry Underwood

The Warriors recently completed their sixth straight losing season, going 3-6 overall and 0-6 in the MACJC South Division.

The ECCC Board of Trustees unanimously accepted Underwood's resignation in Tuesday's monthly meeting.

The Board then approved elevating Steve Cheatham from assistant coach to head coach, despite several areas of concern from various board members.

The Underwood File

Year	All	Division
1998	3-7	2-4
1999	8-3	5-1
2000	6-4	3-3
2001	6-4	4-2
2002	3-6	3-3
2003	2-7	1-5
2004	4-5	2-4
2005	3-4	2-4
2006	2-7	0-6
2007	3-6	0-6
Total	**40-53**	**22-38**

"Because of the timing of Coach Underwood's resignation, the availability of a quality candidate for the position, the release of the College's "Protected List," and the beginning of out-of-district recruiting, I am recommending that the College forego the normal employment procedures and employ Coach Steve Cheatham as head football coach effective, Jan. 3, 2008," ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin told the Board.

"Coach Cheatham has in-state and out-of-state coaching experience, he has been employed in high school, community college, and university football programs, and has been the head coach of two of our district high school football programs. My observations of Coach Cheatham are that he is a man of integrity who will lead the program in the direction that we want for the program."

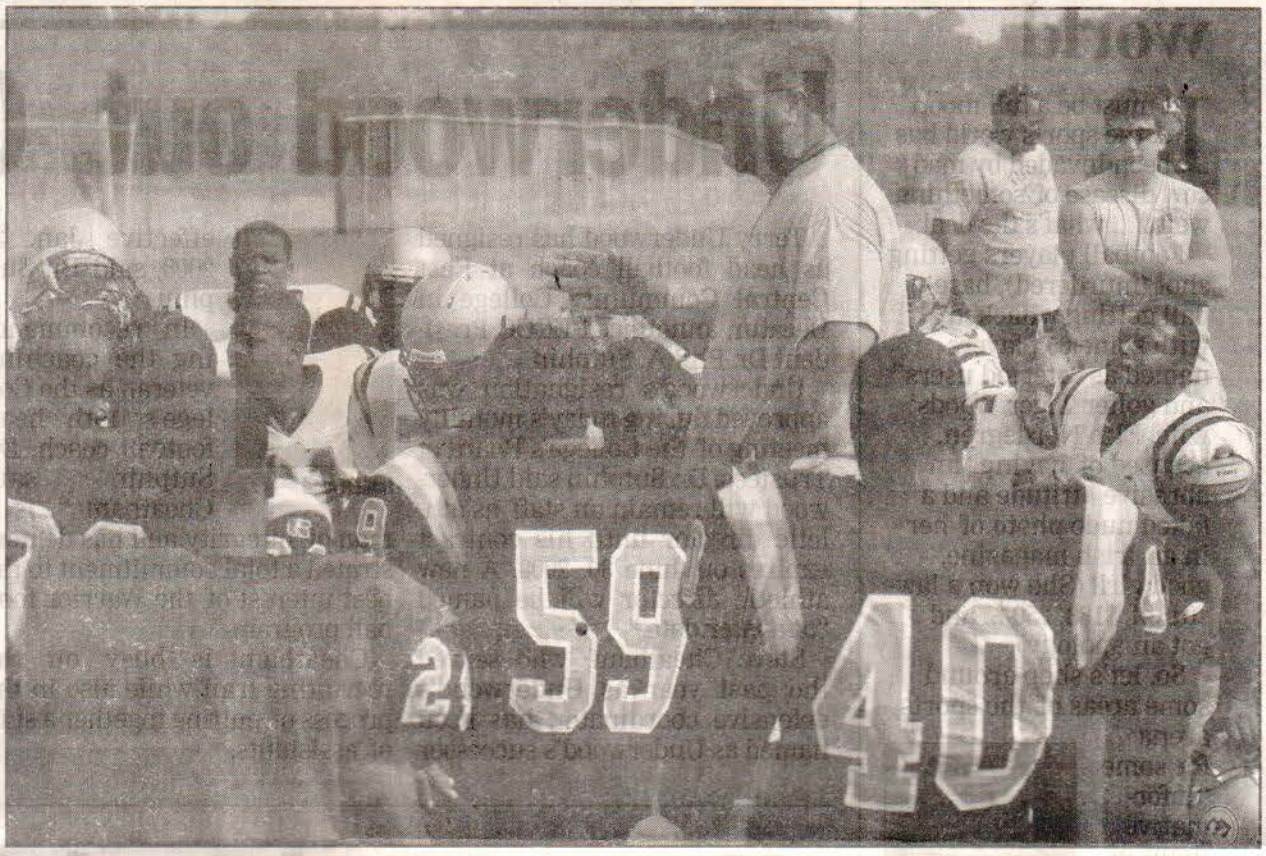
Prior to the vote, several board members spoke up.

"We can't get much worse. I think we ought to open it up," board member Randal

Continued on 4B...
See EC...

Dec. 17

a tough one at East Central



ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

East Central Community College's Terry Underwood talks with his team in this file photo.

to Northeast's. I know it's the only one in the state that doesn't have a 5A school in it. Even East Mississippi has Meridian, Columbus and Starkville to pull from, never mind 4A powers Northeast Lauderdale, Noxubee County and West Point. The state's new recruiting rules, which allow teams to protect a certain number of players and allows other schools to recruiting anybody not on that list, has helped balance the playing field. But when it comes down to it, you have to have good players in your district to be successful and when you do bring in an out-of-state kid, he better be a sure-fire starter and Division I prospect.

And then there is the issue of Underwood being athletic director as well. If you go down through history, look at coaches that have tried this, from the college level to the NFL, rarely does it work out for the coach. Generally, it's too much responsibility for one person to handle. I have often thought it was unfair for the head coach of any program to be athletic director and it would be in the school's and the coach's best interest to split the duties.

As far as a coach, I think Underwood did the best he could with the circumstances he was faced. Did he make some decisions that ended up hurting him? Sure he did but haven't we all. Did he always make the right decisions on district players? Probably not, but judging talent is a fickle business. A kid may look like a star in high school but just doens't have what it takes at the next level.

On a personal note to coach Underwood, I want to thank you for your cooperation with me in my time here at the newspaper. I enjoyed our talks about football and recruiting over the years. I always thought he was honest with me and he always returned my phone calls and that's all I ever really ask of any coach.

Robbie Robertson is editor and publisher of The Newton Record.

WEEK OF Dec. 17

Underwood's job was

On Tuesday afternoon, the Terry Underwood era ended at East Central Community College with little fanfare.

The situation was simple yet complicated. It's been years since Underwood produced a winner on the field at East Central. The reason he's gone are simple but the reasons for the losses are complicated and ones that whomever inherits the program will have to face.

There are plenty of people "close to the program" that say it was time for Underwood to leave, that he had plenty of opportunity to be successful. For the most part, I disagree.

Instead of judging Underwood on his 2007 team, let's look at this thing from a wider prospective.

After several straight losing seasons, Underwood made a decision a few years ago that was a risky one. He decided to go a different direction with his football program when he told offensive coordinator Tim Coats that his services were no longer needed. I don't know how this all came down and don't want to get caught up in semantics, I just know that the general consensus was that Coats was fired. This was a risky move, mainly due to the fact that Coats was the son of popular EC coach Teannie Coats, who had brought the program out of the wilderness in the mid 90s.

Coats was a smash-mouth, option sort of offensive guy. Underwood tried to go with the trends and go with a more wide-open attack that had been so successful at Pearl River and other juco schools. He hired a young coordinator, Mike Volarvich to run this new pass-happy offense.

After Hurricane Katrina, the

Robbie Robertson

first year was basically a do-over for the Warriors. The second year was much better. When it came right down to it, even though Underwood wanted to spread the ball out and throw, on third-and-one he still wanted to run the football to get a first down. So after two years, Volarvich was out and Underwood assumed the offensive coordinator duties this season.

And I have to say that the Warriors were better on offense than they have been in some time. Unfortunately, it was some ill-timed lapses in pass defense that cost the Warriors in some big games. Two plays in two games and the Warriors have a winning record this season.

Several other things really hurt Underwood in his time at EC. The first, which he had no control over, was the competition he played. In the last few years, he's had to deal with nationally ranked teams like Pearl River, Gulf Coast, and Jones. Gulf Coast was co-national champion this year. Pearl River was dominant for a stretch there and Jones is always solid. Take this year for instance, East Central could have had its best team in years and still not had any better luck against those teams. That's just the nature of the beast in junior college athletics.

Then there is recruiting. When you look at all of the junior college recruiting districts in the state, East Central's may be the weakest, right next

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WEEK OF Dec. 10

ECCC Football Warriors receiving top honors

Various post-season honors were presented to the above members of the 2007 East Central Community College football squad, who were recognized at the college's annual Fall Sports Banquet held recently on the Decatur campus. Seated from left are defensive back Ray Frierson, a product of Hillcrest High School in Tuscaloosa, All-Region 23, first team All-State and All-Star; running back Roosevelt Ross, of Ocala-Forest HS in Ocala, Fla., honorable mention J.C. Grid-Wire All-American, All-Region 23 and first team All-State; linebacker David Brackett of Philadelphia, honorable mention J.C. Grid-Wire All-American, second team All-State; nose guard Henry Scott of Will Rogers HS in Tulsa, Okla., second team All-State; and wide receiver Freddie Parham, of St. Clair County HS in Margaret, Ala., second team All-State. Standing from left are offensive lineman James Jenkins of Columbus, second team All-State; quarterback Deon Williams, of Tuscaloosa County, second team All-State and All-Star; and offensive lineman Marquis Harris of Meridian, tight end Spencer Spane of Terry, linebacker Jamar Lawrence of Tuscaloosa County and cornerback Dameon Brown of Thomastown, All-Stars. Harris, Spane, Lawrence and Brown also made honorable mention All-State. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Nov. 12

ECCC Champs

ECCC Flag Football Champs
"All-Stars" took top honors in the intramural flag football competition held recently on the East Central Community College campus in Decatur. Team members include (kneeling from left) Jared Holloway, Philadelphia; Justin Lofton, Raleigh; Ken Robinson and Jeremy Holmes both of Philadelphia; Deon Hudson, Philadelphia; and Terrell Haynes, Noxapater; and (standing from left) Justin Boone, Louisville; Harold Hathorn, Philadelphia; Stuart Hall and Jimmie Holmes, both of Louisville; and Quentin Stephens, Noxapater. ECCC women's softball coach Scott Hill serves as director of intramurals.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

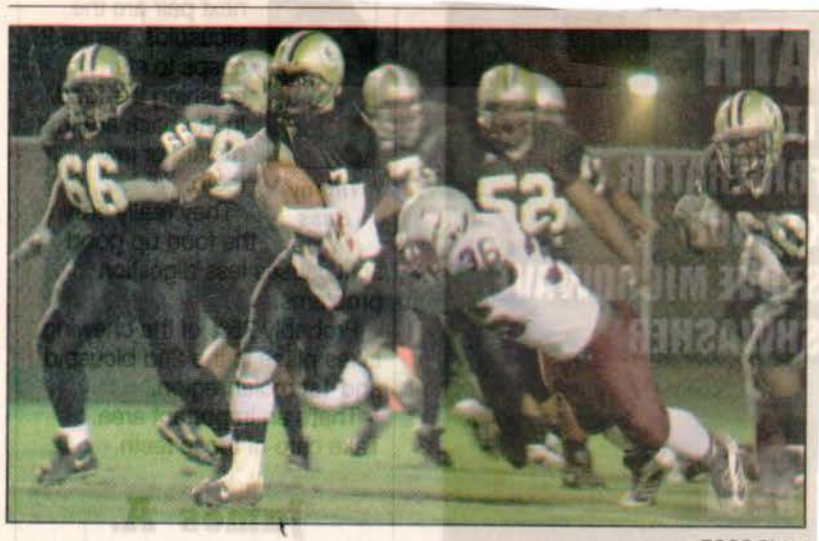
NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

Oct. 29



ECCC Photo

Warrior quarterback Deon Williams (7) breaks a tackle from Coahoma defender Jeremy Atkins (36) during East Central's 32-21 season-ending victory over the visiting Tigers Thursday night.

ECCC ends season with big win over Coahoma

Six weeks of frustration came to an end for the East Central Community College Warriors who concluded 2007 competition by rolling over Coahoma Community College 32-21 Thursday night on a soggy field at Bailey Stadium.

East Central, which snapped a six-game losing streak to finish 3-6, effectively utilized its powerful and highly ranked running game to defeat the Tigers, who dropped to 2-7 under Freeman Horton, a former ECCC assistant and Lake native.

For Terry Underwood, who completes his 10th year at the Warrior helm, the non-division victory provides a positive note on a season that had opportunities to be successful.

"I'm especially proud for our sophomores," Underwood said in the post-game interview. "They've battled all year and we've come up on the short end of a lot of really close games. I'm happy for our sophomores to go out this way and I'm happy for our freshmen to have a good taste in their mouth going into the offseason. It's always good to win."

Freshman running back Maurice Langston, a product of Northeast Lauderdale High School, was the workhorse for the Warrior offense, compiling 104 yards on 11 carries and scoring three touchdowns. Lamario Hopson, a sophomore running back from Meridian, also had a productive evening with 97 yards on 20 carries and one score. Quarterback Deon Williams, who hails from Tuscaloosa County (Ala.) High School, kept the Coahoma defense off balance with an effective passing attack, completing six of nine passes for 104 yards and one score. He also rushed five times for 54 yards. In all, EC compiled 277 yards rushing and 106 yards passing for a 383 total.

The Warriors were without the services of running back Roosevelt Ross- one of the state's top rushers - who missed the final two games due to a knee injury. Ross, a product of Ocala-Forest (Fla.) High School, finished with 695 yards on 98 carries, 7.1-yard per carry. He averaged 99. yards per contest and had eight touch downs.

East Central wasted little time i getting on the scoreboard, as Hopso found pay dirt on a two-yard plung with 11:01 left in the first quarte Beau Hannah of Morton kicked th PAT.

The 79-yard drive took nine play and was highlighted by Williams' 36 yard run to the Coahoma 43 and hi 21-yard pass to tight end Spence Spane of Terry that gave EC posses sion on the Tiger 20.

Coahoma responded to the Warric

See **ECCC**, page 2E

WEEK OF _____

ECCC

Continued from page 1B

tally with quarterback Marvin Pittman of Clarksdale connecting on a 15-yard touchdown strike to wide receiver Leroy Banks of Memphis with 7:30 remaining in the initial period. Jared Corder of Memphis booted the first of his three PATs to tie the contest at 7-7.

The short scoring drive covered just 38 yards in seven plays and was set up on Johnathan Brown's 41-yard kickoff return. Brown is a Cleveland native.

East Central resumed its lead on the ensuing possession, with Williams firing a 26-yard touchdown strike to Langston with 6:03 left in the first period. Hannah was unsuccessful on the PAT attempt.

It took just four plays for the Warriors to find the end zone on their 45-yard scoring drive, set up by a 33-yard kickoff return by Tremayne Bowie of Forest.

East Central extended its lead to 19-7 a short time later on a 54-yard fumble return by defensive lineman Josh Lewis of Tuscaloosa County. The two-point conversion attempt was not successful.

The Warriors scored on their first possession in the second period with Langston crossing the goal line from one-yard out, capping an impressive 91-yard drive that took just nine plays. The two-point conversion again was not successful.

Key plays during the long drive included Williams' 24-yard scramble to the EC 31 and Langston's 46-yard scamper to the Coahoma one-yard line.

Coahoma narrowed the Warriors' 25-7 advantage on its next possession as running back Marlin Meeks of Charleston tallied on a three-yard dash. Meeks would finish the night with 76 yards on 22 carries.

The short Tiger scoring drive was set up when Xavier Jones of Memphis returned Hannah's kickoff 49 yards to the EC 31-yard line.

EC, which held a 25-14 advantage at halftime, put its final points on the scoreboard late in the third quarter on Langston's five-yard run, capping a 10-play, 49-yard drive set up on an interception by Warrior free safety Ray Frierson, a product of Hillcrest High School in Tuscaloosa.

The Tigers scored the game's final points on a 20-yard touchdown pass from Aaron Encalade of New Orleans to wide receiver Michael Mouton of Pensacola with 13 seconds remaining in the contest.

East Central had 13 first downs and Coahoma posted 15.

Backup quarterback Jacob Massey of Union completed his only pass attempt for two yards and had 11 yards rushing on five carries. Other rushers not previously mentioned included fullback Courtney Shelton of Tuscaloosa Academy, two rushes for 10 yards; and fullback Marcus Travis of Perry Central, one yard on one carry.

Additional receptions were made by Spane, two catches for 30 yards; Katlan French of Starkville Academy, one for 30 yards; Freddie Parham, a product of St. Clair County HS in Margaret, Ala., one for 21 yards; and Michael Townsend of Forest, one reception for minus three yards.

Derek Crenshaw of Neshoba Central had five punts for a 36-yard average.

Coahoma had 130 yards rushing and 91 yards passing for a 221 total.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

Oct.

ECCC PHOTO

Football coaches at East Central Community College for the 2007 season included (kneeling from left) Steve Cheatham; Terry Underwood, head coach/offensive coordinator/quarterbacks/running backs; and James Miller. (standing from left) ***Derrick Qualls, wide receivers/tight ends, of Forest***; Kyle Watson, Fred Lyons, Brian Jones and Derrick Jones, athletic trainer.

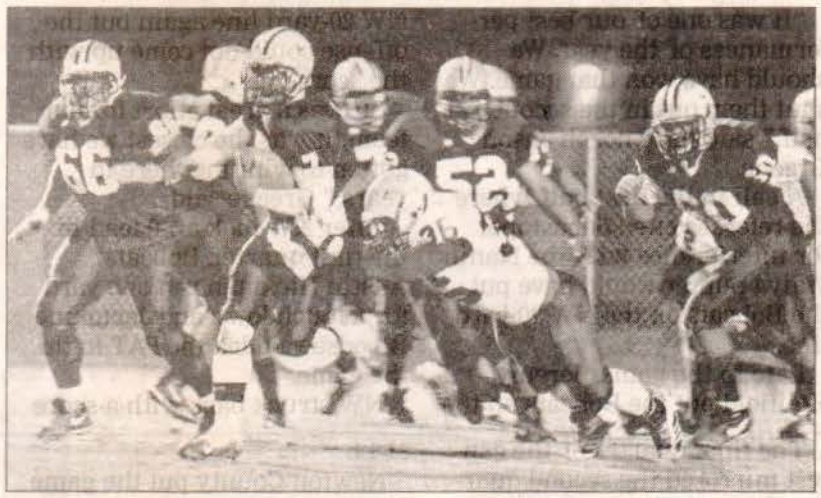
Defensive linemen on the 2007 East Central Community College footbal
ed (kneeling from left) Vonzell Jackson, Chris Ivy, Ken Whitfield, Henry Sc
Patrick, Forest; and Lorenzo Wells. (standing from left) Fred Lyons, de
Josh Lewis, Jasen Fairley, Quan Lowe, Mark Hoskins, L.A. Jones and Bria

ECCC PHOTO

Linebackers on the 2007 East Central Community College football squad included (kneeling from left) Bryon Rizzi, Harvey Brown, Colin Carvey, Anthony McDonald and ***Brad Ellis, Forest***. (standing from left) Jamar Lawrence, David Brackett, James Miller, linebackers coach; Ken Coleman and Randy Carter.

Oct. 29

On Positive Note With Win



ECCC PHOTO

Warrior quarterback Deon Williams (70) breaks a tackle from Coahoma defender Jeremy Atkins (36) during East Central's 32-21 season-ending victory over the visiting Tigers Thursday night. Other Warriors pictured include offensive linemen Robert Gaston (66) of West Point and Quintin Scott (52) of Desoto Central, and wide receiver *Tremayne Bowie (80) of Forest.*

Hannah was unsuccessful on the PAT attempt.

It took just four plays for the Warriors to find the end zone on their 45-yard scoring drive, set up by a 33-yard kickoff return by ***Tremayne Bowie of Forest***.

East Central extended its lead to 19-7 a short time later on a 54-yard fumble return by defensive lineman Josh Lewis. The two-point conversion attempt failed.

The Warriors scored on their first possession in the second period with Langston crossing the goal line from one-yard out, capping an impressive 91-yard drive that took just nine plays. The two-point conversion failed again.

Key plays during the long drive included Williams' 24-yard scramble to the EC 31 and Langston's 46-yard scamper to the Coahoma one-yard line.

Coahoma narrowed the Warriors' 25-7 advantage on its next possession with a three-yard dash.

The short Tiger scoring drive was set up when Xavier Jones of Memphis returned ***Hannah's*** kickoff 49 yards to the EC 31-yard line.

EC, which held a 25-14 advantage at halftime, put its final points on the scoreboard late in the third quarter on Langston's five-yard run, capping a 10-play, 49-yard drive set up on an interception by Warrior free safety Ray Frierson.

The Tigers scored the game's final points on a 20-yard touchdown pass with 13 seconds remaining in the contest.

East Central had 13 first downs and Coahoma posted 15.

Backup quarterback ***Jacob Massey*** completed his only pass attempt for two yards and had 11 yards rushing on five carries.

Michael Townsend of Forest made one reception for minus three yards.

WEEK OF Oct. 31

ECCC Warriors End Season

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR—Six weeks of frustration came to an end for the East Central Community College Warriors who concluded 2007 competition by rolling over Coahoma Community College 32-21 Thursday.

East Central, which snapped a six-game losing streak to finish 3-6, effectively utilized its powerful and highly ranked running game to defeat the Tigers, who dropped to 2-7 under ***Freeman Horton***, a former ECCC assistant and ***Lake native***.

For Terry Underwood, who completes his 10th year at the Warrior helm, the non-division victory provides a positive note on a season that had opportunities to be successful.

"I'm especially proud for our sophomores," Underwood said. "They've battled all year and we've come up on the short end of a lot of really close games.

"I'm happy for our sophomores to go out this way and I'm happy for our freshmen to have a good taste in their mouth going into the offseason. It's always good to win."

ECCC PHOTO

Beau Hannah of Morton handled kicking duties for the Warriors in 2007.

Freshman running back Maurice Langston was the workhorse for the Warrior offense, compiling 104 yards on 11 carries and scoring three touchdowns.

Lamario Hopson also had a productive evening with 97 yards on 20 carries and one score. Quarterback Deon Williams kept the Coahoma defense off balance with an effective passing attack, completing six of nine passes for 104 yards and one score. He also rushed five times for 54 yards. In all, EC compiled 277 yards rushing and 106 yards passing for a 383 total.

The Warriors were without the services of running back Roosevelt Ross, one of the state's top rushers, who missed the final two games due to a knee injury. Ross finished with 695 yards on 98 carries, a 7.1-yard per carry. He averaged 99.3 yards per contest and had eight touchdowns.

East Central wasted little time in getting on the scoreboard, as Hopson found pay dirt on a two-yard plunge with 11:01 left in the first quarter. ***Beau Hannah of Morton*** kicked the PAT.

The 79-yard drive took nine plays and was highlighted by Williams' 36-yard run to the Coahoma 43 and his 21-yard pass to tight end Spencer Spane of Terry that gave EC possession on the Tiger 20.

Coahoma responded to the Warrior tally connecting on a 15-yard touchdown strike with 7:30 remaining in the initial period.

With the PAT, the game was tied at 7-7.

East Central resumed its lead on the ensuing possession, with Williams firing a 26-yard touchdown strike to Langston with 6:03 left in the first period.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

Oct. 26/07

JUCO

From Page B1

Since the quick start, the Warriors have been unable to close out games, losing four of the six after having a second half lead.

This week, the Warriors will attempt to snap that streak against a Coahoma team that is also reeling, having lost three straight.

Despite the dismal record, the Warriors continue to field one of the state's most prolific rushing offenses, second only to MACJC South leader Gulf Coast. ECCC enters the seasons' final week averaging 206 yards per game on the ground.

Although he missed last week's loss against Hinds, ECCC running back Roosevelt Ross remains at No. 2 on the state's rushing list. Ross has accumulated 695 yards on 98 carries, averaging 7.1 yards per carry.

Ross remains second on the rushing list behind EMCC standout LeGarrette Blount, who has rushed for 858 yards and five touchdowns on the season.

Saturday, Blount will wrap up his EMCC career at Itawamba, a team looking to wrap up the top seed in the MACJC North Division.

After a dreadful start, EMCC has rebounded, winning two of its last three games to climb to third in the North.

East Central and Coahoma kick off at 6:30 Thursday night, while EMCC will play its third straight Saturday game at Itawamba with kickoff set for 2 p.m.

WEEK OF Oct 28/08

Lions, Warriors look to finish regular season on winning note

By Brandon Walker
assistant sports editor

After a disappointing stretch run of the 2007 season, both East Mississippi Community College and East Central will look to end their season on a winning note this weekend.

The Lions, who were eliminated from postseason contention last week, will look to finish the year with a winning record in MACJC North division play, traveling to division-leading Itawamba, which enters this week atop the division standings with a 5-0 mark against North opponents.

On the other side of the ledger, the Warriors of East Central will look to avoid ending the season on a sour note, hosting Coahoma in hopes of snapping a six-game losing skid.

For the Warriors, the losing streak began after a 2-0 start to the regular season following back-to-back wins over EMCC and Mississippi Delta.

See **JUCO**
Page B3

SUBMITTED PHOTO

DRAWING IT UP
EMCC defensive coordinator Kelby Bowman strategizes on the sidelines with Abaris Sanders, No. 52, and Marvis Owens, No. 20.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Oct 22

Loss at Hinds leaves EC in South cellar

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

No matter how hard they try, the East Central Community College Warriors just can t seem to gain any ground in the MACJC South Division standings.

The Warriors lost a 20-17 league contest to Hinds Community College in overtime at Raymond last Thursday to fall to 0-6 in the division and 2-6 overall.

The loss leaves the Warriors in the South Division cellar for the second straight year and extends their losing streak in the division to 13. EC s last division win was a 28-14 victory at Jones on Oct. 27, 2005.

After the teams battled to a 17-17 stalemate through three quarters, Hinds Parker Ware booted a 31-yard field goal on the fourth play of overtime to put the Eagles up 20-17.

The Warriors then went for the win early on their overtime possession, but Deon Williams was intercepted by Antwon Dixon in the end zone to send the Warriors to their sixth-straight loss of 2007.

Hinds improved to 2-3 in the division and 5-3 overall.

ECCC led 17-10 going into halftime and had a chance to win in regulation, but Beau Hannah s 52-yard field goal attempt failed as time ran out.

The Warriors threatened early as Maurice Langston returned the opening kickoff 64 yards to the Eagle 27, but a fumble halted the drive at the 17.

Hinds went up 7-0 on a 1-yard keeper by Jarrod Fleming to cap a six-play, 64-yard drive.

The Warriors closed to within 7-3 on a 26-yard field goal by Hannah with 1:33 to go in the opening period. EC covered 72 yards in eight plays to get the three points. Williams had a 60-yard run on the drive.

Continued on 6B...
See EC...

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____
SPIRIT OF MORTON _____
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tober 24, 2007

EC...

Continued from 5B...

Freddie Parham put the Warriors up 10-7 with a 20-yard flanker reverse with 11:41 remaining in the first half. The score was set up by Ken Whitfield s interception and 19-yard return to the Hinds 21.

The Eagles tied the game at 10-10 on a 25-yard field goal by Ware with 1:34 left in the half.

It took EC only six plays to cover 65 yards and go up 17-10 entering the break. Langston got the touchdown on a 22-yard run. He also had runs of 18 and 10 yards on the drive

Hinds pulled even at 17-17 late in the third quarter on a 14-yard run by Anton Taylor.

For the game, Williams completed 7-of-16 passes for 62 yards. Jacob Massey was 2-of-6 for 35 yards. Parham caught three passes for 34 yards. Lamario Hopson led the EC ground game with 74 yards on nine carries. Langston added 72 yards on 13 rushes.

The EC defense was led by defensive lineman Mark Hoskins with eight tackles and half a quarterback sack. Nose guard Henry Scott had seven tackles and one-and-a-half sacks. Linebacker Jamar Lawrence had six tackles.

The Warriors wrap up their season on Thursday when they host Coahoma Community College at 6:30 p.m. at Bailey Stadium.

The Tigers are 2-6 overall and 2-4 in the North Division after falling 36-6 to Northeast Mississippi Community College Saturday afternoon.

Freeman Horton, a former EC assistant and Lake native, serves as Coahoma head coach.

WEEK OF Oct. 22

Overtime field goal lifts Hinds over ECCC

It was another frustrating loss for the East Central Community College Warriors Thursday night, as Hinds Community College kicker Parker Ware of Brandon split the uprights from 31 yards out to give the Eagles a 20-17 homecoming win in overtime at Joe Robby Stadium in Raymond.

East Central dropped to 2-6 overall and 0-6 in MACJC South Division competition following the division defeat, while Hinds improved to 5-3 and 2-3.

The Warriors took first possession on the 25-yard line in the overtime period but quarterback Deon Williams, a product of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County High School, was intercepted in the end zone by Eagle defender Antwon Dixon of Jackson on the first play from scrimmage.

Ware's game-winning field goal came on the Eagles' fourth play in the extra period on third and 12.

East Central, which led 17-10 at halftime, had an opportunity to win in the contest in regulation, but Morton product Beau Hannah's 52-yard field goal attempt was unsuccessful as time expired.

The longtime division rivalry began on a positive note for the Warriors as speedster Maurice Langston returned the opening kickoff 64 yards to the Hinds 27.

But EC was unable to take advantage of the opportunity and gave up possession on the Eagle 17-yard line following a fumble.

Hinds would take a 7-0 lead later in the period on a one-yard plunge by quarterback Jarrod Fleming of Orlando. Ware added the PAT.

EC responded to the Eagle tally with Hannah's 26-yard field goal with 1:33 left in the first quarter, capping an eight-play, 72-yard march.

The Warriors took their first lead of the night two possessions later when wide receiver Freddie Parham, who hails from St. Clair County High School in Margaret, Ala., found the end zone from 20 yards out on a flanker reverse with 11:41 left in the second stanza. Hannah added the PAT and the Warriors held a 10-7 advantage.

East Central missed another scoring opportunity on its next possession, as the Warriors drove to the Hinds 30-yard line. But EC could get no closer and turned the ball over after failing to convert a fourth and 16 situation, giving Hinds excellent field position at its 45-yard line.

The Eagles took advantage of the opportunity as Ware connected on a 25-yard field goal, which tied the contest at 10-10 with 1:34 left before halftime.

East Central took the ensuing kickoff and quickly drove 65 yards in just six plays to retake the lead at 17-10, thanks to Langston's 22-yard touchdown scamper. Hannah added the PAT.

Hinds would again tie the contest late in the third quarter on a 14-yard run by Anton Taylor of Jackson. Ware added the PAT.

Neither team threatened to score in the final stanza until Hanna's missed field goal from 52 yards sent the game into overtime.

Williams finished the night by completing seven of 16 passes for 62 yards. Backup signal caller Jacob Massey of Union completed two of six attempts for 35 yards. Parham was the leading receiver with three receptions for 34 yards.

Lamario Hopson was the leading ground gainer for EC, with 74 yards on nine carries.

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Oct. 15/07

Co-Lin spoils EC homecoming

It was déjà vu "all over again" for the East Central Community College football team which again saw victory snatched away in the final moments of an MACJC South Division contest.

The "spoiler" this time was the Copiah-Lincoln Community College Wolves who scored on a 15-yard pass from quarterback Micah Davis of Wesson to wide receiver Toddrick Bajoie of New Roads, La., with 38 seconds remaining, which gave the visitors a 21-17 shocker on homecoming day at Bailey Stadium Saturday afternoon in Decatur.

East Central, which lost in similar fashion to division rivals Jones (32-29) and Southwest (25-21) earlier in the season, had taken a 17-14 advantage with 1:45 remaining when quarterback Deon Williams found a wide open Courtney Shelton for a 14-yard touchdown pass, capping a seven-play, 39-yard drive. Williams is a former standout at Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County and fullback Shelton hails from Tuscaloosa Academy.

The excellent field position was set up by Freddie Parham on his 39-yard kickoff return after Co-Lin had taken a 14-10 lead. The Wolves scored on a four-yard touchdown pass from Davis to Haki Reed of Fayette with 4:56 left in the contest. Parham is a product of St. Clair County High School in Margaret, Ala.

For Warrior head coach Terry Underwood, Saturday's loss was obviously tough to take, as ECCC fell to 2-5 overall and 0-5 in league play. Co-Lin improved to 2-5 and 2-3.

"There's not much to say," Underwood told reporters during a post-game interview. "They had a minute and something to go and they went down the field and made the plays. It gets down to making plays in this game."

The key play during Co-Lin's 65-yard, five-play drive was Davis' 39-yard completion to Jason Bruce of Natchez to the EC 15.

East Central responded to the score by reaching the 12-yard line following a 15-yard pass from Williams to Katlan French of Starkville Academy as time expired.

Underwood praised his team for "fighting back" and taking the lead late in the ball game, but was also frustrated the Warriors were unable to close the deal.

"You hate for a game to end that way...there were so many opportunities that we didn't take advantage of and capitalize with points...we haven't been able to finish, that's the bottom line. It's frustrating. I hate for the kids. I hate for everybody involved," said the 10-year head coach.

East Central took a 3-0 first-quarter lead when Neshoba Central product Derek Crenshaw kicked a 30-yard field goal with 17 seconds remaining, capping a 12-play, 66-yard drive. Crenshaw, who normally just handles punting duties, subbed for Beau Hannah of Morton who was injured earlier in the contest. Crenshaw also connected on two PATs.

WEEK OF Oct 15/07

Wednesday, October 17, 2007 The Newt

TONY COLLINS/THE NEWTON RECORD

East Central Community College's Roosevelt Ross is brought down by a host of Co-Lin defenders.

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Oct. 8/07

PHOTO BY PAUL MERRITT/THE MERIDIAN STAR

GRINDING IT OUT

East Central Community College's Courtney Shelton is taken down by Copiah-Lincoln Community College's Andrew McGee as Victor Pickens comes in to assist during second quarter action Saturday in Decatur.

McGee and Townsend completed the 65-yard scoring play with 6:06 to play in the third quarter. Crenshaw's kick put the Warriors up 10-7.

The Wolves drove to the ECCC 16 where Davis lost the ball on a scramble with the Warriors recovering.

Prosperity wouldn't last as Crenshaw was forced to punt on the run and the Wolves took over at the ECCC 35. Five plays later, Davis hit Haki Reed for a14-10 lead with 4:56 to play.

Both offenses managed a touchdown in the remaining time, despite having struggled most of the afternoon.

Co-Lin improved to 2-3 and 2-5. The Wolves had scored only 36 points in their first six games.

WEEK OF

Warriors drop heartbreaker to visiting Co-Lin on homecoming

By Marty Stamper
special to the star

JUNIOR COLLEGE FOOTBALL

DECATUR — Those who have followed East Central Community College football this fall knew better than to feel safe when the Warriors grabbed a 17-14 lead with only 1:45 remaining in Saturday's homecoming contest with Copiah-Lincoln Community College.

Sure enough, the Wolves needed only 67 seconds to find the end zone and take a 21-17 victory in the MACJC South Division contest.

ECCC fell to 0-5 in the division and 2-5 overall. The Warriors have now lost 12 consecutive division games and will have to win Thursday at Hinds Community College to have any chance of avoiding the league cellar for the second year in a row.

"There's not much to say. They converted. They had a minute and something to go and they went down the field and made the plays," said ECCC 10th-year head coach Terry Underwood. "It gets down to making plays in this game.

"Our kids fought back and got the lead with a minute and something to go. You hate for a game to end that way. There were so many opportunities.

"We had turnover after turnover early in the first half that we didn't take advantage of and capitalize on with points. It kinda got down to a last-minute deal and we've had a lot of those this year.

"We haven't been able to finish. That's bur bottom line. It's frustrating. I hate it for the kids. I hate it for everybody involved."

The Warriors did put together a fine scoring drive to enjoy a brief lead at 17-14. A 39-yard kickoff return by Freddie Parham put ECCC in business at the Co-Lin 39 with just under five minutes remaining.

Quarterback Deon Williams scrambled for 12 yards to the 29, hit Maurice Langston for a 9-yard gain, then completed a 13-yard touchdown pass to Courtney Shelton with 1:45 showing. Derek Crenshaw's extra point gave ECCC a 17-14 advantage.

Co-Lin answered with a 39-yard pass over the middle from Micah Davis to Jason Bruce, who made a leaping one-handed grab at the ECCC 15. On the next play, Davis found Toddick Bajoie at the goal line with 38 seconds remaining.

Will Thibodeaux added the PAT to give the Wolves a 21-17 lead and force ECCC to score a touchdown to reclaim the upper hand.

The Warriors reached the Co-Lin 12 where Katlan French was hit hard following a 15-yard reception from Williams as time expired.

Crenshaw gave the Warriors a 3-0 lead on a 30-yard field goal with 17 seconds left in the first quarter. Parham set up the score with a 15-yard run to the Co-Lin 13.

Co-Lin scored on the first possession of the second half as the Wolves covered 58 yards following a 37-yard kickoff return by Latarus Frazier.

Kentrell Cleveland ran 10 yards to the 1, then leapt into the end zone on the next play for the touchdown. Thibodeaux' kick gave the Wolves a 7-3 lead barely two minutes into the third quarter.

Williams then found Michael Townsend a step behind Co-Lin's Andrew

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UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

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IMPACT _____

Oct. 8/07

East Central, EMCC each play host to division foes

• *See Division Standings, page B2*

By Brandon Walker
assistant sports editor

Roger Carr knows that nothing can be done to change the past.

If that was possible, surely Carr and his coaching staff would revisit East Mississippi's 1-4 start to this football season.

Instead, the veteran coach and his Lions have put that dreadful start in the rearview mirror, because the next three games could go a long way in determining EMCC's future.

Despite the lackluster beginning, EMCC still controls its own destiny in MACJC's North Division. At 2-2 in division play, a postseason spot is still within reach for the surging Lions.

Playing division opponents over the next three weeks, Carr knows the opportunity is there to forget about the past and concentrate on the future.

"Here we are, 2-2 in the division and anything can happen," Carr

See **JUCO**
Page B3

WEEK OF Oct. 8/07

JUCO

From Page B1

said in the wake of his team's 31-27 victory over Northeast last Thursday. "It's not how you start, it's how you finish. The opportunity is right there for us to take it, so we just have to come out and be ready to play a good team next week."

The good team Carr referred to will be Coahoma, which also enters the crucial division matchup with a 2-2 mark. EMCC will host Coahoma Saturday afternoon, with the winner claiming sole possession of third place in MACJC North.

"We didn't start the way we wanted to start this year, but we have kept battling," Carr said. "This team hasn't quit and they've show a lot of fight to stay in this thing."

East Mississippi will look to feature its balanced offense against Coahoma, a team that ranks eighth in the state in total defense. EMCC sophomore quarterback Jare Gault is coming off his best performance as a Lion, earning MACJC Offensive Player of the Week honors with a three-touchdown performance last week.

Lion running back LeGarrette Blount ranks second in the state in rushing with 590 yards and four scores through six games.

EMCC and Coahoma kick off at 1:30 p.m.

Copiah-Lincoln at East Central

Looking to end a four-game skid which started after a 2-0 start, the Warriors of East Central will return home Saturday to host visiting Copiah-Lincoln for Homecoming.

Facing Co-Lin (1-5, 1-3) could be just what the Warriors need after facing nationally-ranked opponents in three of the last four weeks. After dropping decisions to 6th-ranked Jones County and No. 9 Pearl River, East Central fell 41-24 to No. 3 Gulf Coast last week.

In Co-Lin, the Warriors will face a team that has managed to score just 36 points in six games and ranks last in most major offensive categories within the state.

The Warriors rely on the state's best rushing attack behind tailbacks Roosevelt Ross and Maurice Langston. Ross leads the state with 624 yards and eight touchdowns on the ground. Langston, a product of Northeast Lauderdale, leads the state in kick returns with an average of 37.3 yards per return.

Kickoff for the MACJC South Division battle is set for 2:30 p.m. in Decatur.

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UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF

ECCC falls to No. 3 Gulf Coast

Nationally ranked Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College held off a determined group of East Central Community College Warriors Thursday night and escaped with a 41-24 decision at A.L. May Memorial Stadium on the Perkinston campus.

The Bulldogs, ranked third in the latest NJCAA poll and second according to the J.C. Grid Wire ratings, improved to 6-0 overall and 4-0 in the MACJC South Division, while East Central dropped to 2-4 and 0-4.

For the Warriors, it was another tough loss to a nationally ranked team.

"We just did not do what we needed to do to win the game," said ECCC head coach Terry Underwood, whose squad also lost close decisions to national powers Jones County and Pearl River. "But our focus now is on our remaining three games and we hope to finish the year on a positive note."

Sophomore Roosevelt Ross was again the workhorse for the Warrior offense, as he scored on second-half runs of 29 and 61 yards en route to a 148-yard performance on 10 carries. Ross, a product of Ocala-Forest (Fla.) High School, continues to be ranked among the state's top rushers, averaging more than 100 yards per contest.

East Central also scored on a 27-yard strike from quarterback Deon Williams to wide receiver Michael Townsend late in third quarter action, which brought the Warriors within three points at 20-17.

Williams, a product of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County High School, was injured late in the first quarter and returned to action in the third period. He finished the night by completing seven of 13 passes for 86 yards. He also rushed nine times for 41 yards. Back-up quarterback Jacob Massey of Union completed two of five attempts for 18 yards. Massey had 20 yards rushing on five attempts.

East Central's first points came in dramatic fashion, as placekicker Beau Hannah of Morton boomed a 50-yard field goal as the first half expired, cutting the Gulf Coast advantage to 17-3. Hannah also connected on three PATs.

SCORING SUMMARY

Gulf Coast took a 3-0 lead on Sean Brauch's 25-yard field goal with 41.9 seconds left in the first period. The Bulldogs scored twice in the second stanza, the first tally coming on a 27-yard pass from quarterback Genario McNealy of Perry, Fla., to wide receiver Akeem Simmons of Moss Point with 6:33 remaining, followed by a one-yard plunge by running back Trey Hobson of Pascagoula with 35 seconds left before halftime. Brauchle, of Biloxi, added both PATs.

Hanna's career-best field goal was set up by Katlan French's 30-yard kickoff return to the Gulf Coast 40 yard line. French is a product of Starkville Academy.

After forcing the Bulldogs to punt on their first possession of the second half, East Central marched 65 yards in just six plays, climaxed by Ross' 29-yard run to pay dirt. Massey engineered the scoring drive, which featured his 13-yard pass completion to Townsend and a 17-yard run by wide receiver Freddie Parham, a product of St. Clair County High School in Margaret, Ala.

The Warriors host Copiah-Lincoln Community College in this Saturday's homecoming battle, which kicks off at 2:30 p.m. at Bailey Stadium. The Wolves are 1-5 overall and 1-3 in league action following last week's 37-0 loss to Hinds Community College.

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UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

Oct. 1/07

East Central hangs tough in loss to Pearl River

A blocked punt return for a touchdown and a safety helped provide the margin of victory for nationally ranked Pearl River Community College who escaped with a 33-24 decision over East Central Community College Thursday night at Bailey Stadium on the Decatur campus.

The Warriors, who dropped to 2-3 overall and 0-3 in the MACJC South Division, battled the nation's previously top-ranked team for four quarters and trailed 19-17 going into the final stanza. The Wildcats added two fourth period scores and held on for the nine-point victory, improving to 4-1 and 2-1.

East Central head coach Terry Underwood, a former assistant at Pearl River, praised his squad's effort against the Wildcats, who were ranked sixth prior to the division match-up.

"I'm real proud of our team," Underwood stated. "Our guys played really hard. We really felt like we could win and came out and played to win....we just made too many mistakes. But we've got nothing to hang our head about."

The Warriors won the statistical battle, amassing 318 total yards to 286 for Pearl River, one of the few times in the last four or five years the Wildcats have lost that battle. EC also held an edge in first downs by a 17-12 margin.

But Pearl River won the scoreboard "battle" and took an early 7-0 lead when Frank Newsome of Petal scooped up a blocked Derek Crenshaw punt and scampered 27 yards to pay dirt with 10:58 remaining in the first period. Brad Bingham of Moss Point added the first of his four PATs.

East Central got on the scoreboard early in the second stanza on a 25-yard field goal by Beau Hannah of Morton. The scoring drive was set up when cornerback Clint Coleman of Louisville intercepted Pat Oliver's pass at the Warrior 14-yard line.

Key plays during the scoring march included a 28-yard run by quarterback Deon Williams and his 17-yard pass completion to wide receiver Kendrick May. Both are products of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County High School. The drive also featured several long gains by running back Roosevelt Ross, a product of Ocala-Forest (Fla.) High School, who is one of the state's top rushers.

Pearl River responded with a field goal of its own, a 40-yarder by Bingham with 2:17 left before halftime that extended the Wildcat lead to 10-3.

The Warriors tied the contest on their next possession on a 28-yard touchdown strike from Williams to Michael Townsend of Forest with 59 seconds left before the break. Hannah added the PAT. The 58-yard drive took just five plays and was highlighted by running back Maurice Langston's 19-yard scamper to the Pearl River 28. Langston, a former standout at Northeast Lauderdale, is also one of the state's top rushers.

Pearl River took a 12-10 advantage on a safety early in the third stanza, and scored again later in the period on a one-yard plunge by Tim Rawlinson of Prattville, Ala. The scoring drive covered just 34 yards and was set up by a Warrior fumble.

East Central also found the end zone in the third quarter, when Williams and May connected on a 26-yard scoring pass play with 4:26 left. Hannah added the PAT and the Warriors were again within two points at 19-17. The 80-yard march took nine plays and featured Williams' 22-yard scamper to midfield.

EC scored the game's final points on a three-yard TD pass from Williams to wide receiver Katlan French, a product of Starkville Academy, with just over six minutes remaining. The 66-yard drive took eight plays and was highlighted by a 23-yard pass play from Williams to May on third and 10 that gave EC possession on the Pearl River 33.

Ross was the top rusher for EC with 78 yards on 16 carries. Langston had 45 yards on 10 carries. Williams rushed 14 times for 39 yards and backup quarterback Jacob Massey of Union had 30 yards on six carries. Williams completed six of 13 passes for 93 yards and three touchdowns. Massey threw two passes but had no completions.

East Central will again face a top-ranked team this Thursday when the Warriors travel to undefeated Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College for a 7 p.m. kickoff.

WEEK OF Oct 1/07

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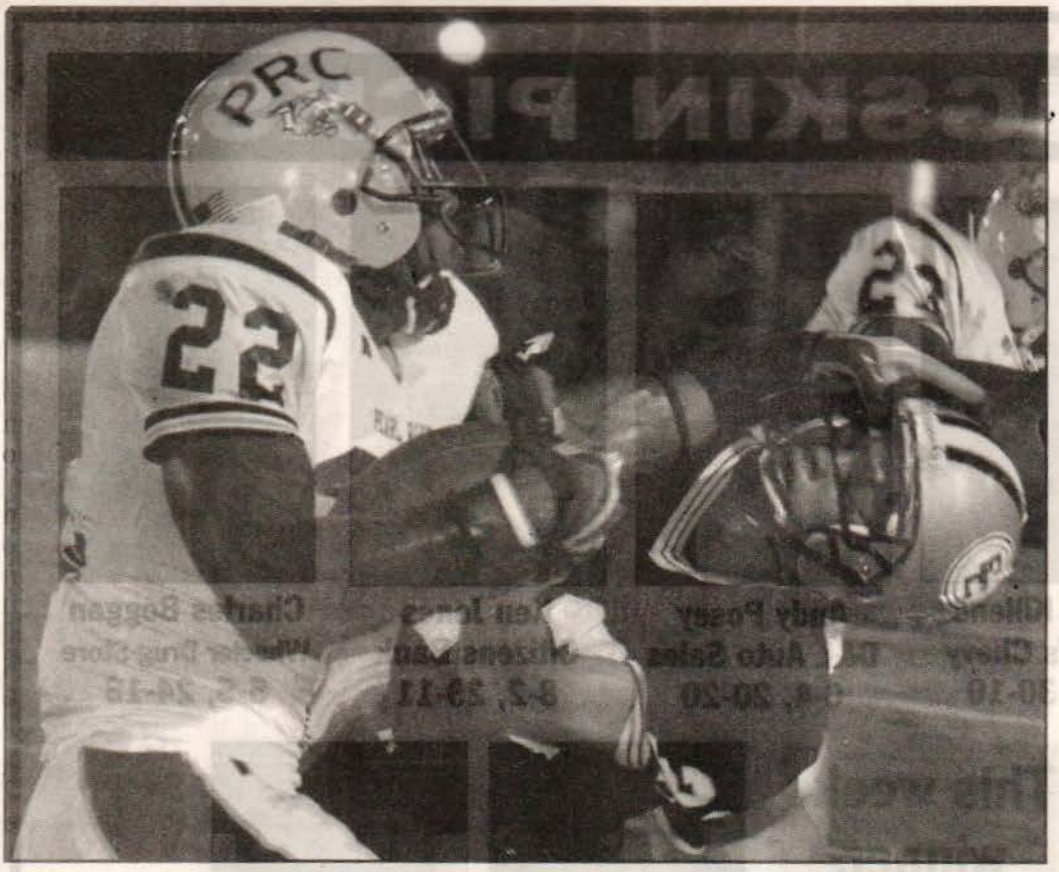

ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

Pearl River's Brandon Burns is brought down during a kickoff return by East Central's Lamar Thurman Thursday night in Decatur. See a photo gallery from the game at www.the-newtonrecord.com.

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF _____

ECCC

From Page C1

when the ball eventually went out the back of the end zone with 12:10 showing in the third quarter.

Aided by a 15-yard penalty on ECCC on the kickoff, the Wildcats drove to the Warrior 22 only to have Oliver lose a fumble that was recovered by ECCC's Henry Scott.

The good fortune didn't last long as Pearl River's Hendrick Leverette recovered a fumbled option pitch by ECCC's Jacob Massey at the Warrior 34.

A 32-yard toss from Oliver to Chris Reed had the Wildcats knocking on the door at the 1 and Tim Rawlinson found the end zone on the next play to extend Pearl River's lead to 19-10 with 8:42 remaining in the third quarter.

The Warriors put together a scoring drive to close to within 19-17. Williams found Kendrick May wide open over the middle on a post pattern with 4:26 to go in the third period. Hannah added the PAT.

Early in the fourth quarter, Oliver hit Jerry Duncan on a short pass on third-and-goal from the 5 and the freshman wide receiver turned the play into a touchdown and a 26-17 lead.

The Wildcats pulled out to a 33-17 lead on a 2-yard run by Rawlinson with 10:20 to play.

The Warriors recovered a Wildcat onside kick at the Pearl River 44 and closed to within 33-23 on a 3-yard pass from Williams to Katlan French in the left corner of the end zone. Freddie Parham set up the score with a 25-yard dash to the 9.

Down 10 with 6:03 still remaining and with two timeouts, the Warriors kicked the extra point to close to within 33-24 before the coaching staff could get a timeout called.

"We misfigured," Underwood said. "After our last score, we should have went for two. I had a coach that was telling me what to do because I'm into calling plays. Long story short, we didn't add right and that's our mistake.

"If we had made the two, that would have given us an opportunity to go for two again (and a tie) if we had scored again."

ECCC kicked off deep and the Wildcats recovered two of their own fumbles to end any hopes of a Warrior comeback.

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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IMPACT _____

Close but no cigar, again

Warriors drop third straight heartbreaker, this time to the nation's No. 1 preseason team

By Marty Stamper
Special to The Star

DECATUR — Pearl River Community College outscored East Central Community College 23-14 in the second half to take a 33-24 win in Thursday's MACJC South Division contest.

ECCC dropped to 0-3 in the division and 2-3 overall, while Pearl River, ranked No. 6 in this week's NJCAA poll, improved to 2-1 and 4-1.

"I'm real proud of our team," said 10th-year ECCC head coach Terry Underwood. "Our guys played really hard. We really felt like we could win and came out and played to win.

"Once again, we made too many critical mistakes at critical times. When you play a good football team, you just can't make that many mistakes.

"We played a real good game, we just made too many mistakes. We've got nothing to hang our head about."

The Wildcats struck first when Jamie Hill converted a blocked ECCC punt into a 7-0 lead with 10:58 to play in the first quarter.

ECCC halted a Pearl River drive at the ECCC 14 when Clint Coleman picked off a Pat Oliver pass. The Warriors then drove to the Wildcat 5 to get a 24-yard field goal by Beau Hannah with 9:58 remaining in the second quarter.

Pearl River upped its lead to 10-3 on a 40-yard field goal by Brad Bingham with 7:36 to play in the half.

The Warriors pulled even going into the break as Deon Williams found Michael Townsend behind the Pearl River secondary for a 30-yard touchdown pass with 59 seconds to go before halftime. Hannah's extra point knotted the contest at 10-10.

The Wildcats steadily pulled away in the second half.

A bobbled snap on third-and-12 from the ECCC 12 turned into a safety for the Wildcats

See **ECCC**
Page C5

"We played a real good game, we just made too many mistakes. We've got nothing to hang our head about.

ECCC head coach Terry Underwood

PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

UP AND OVER

Pearl River's Craig Marshall goes over teammate Josh Wiley to tackle East Central's Roosevelt Ross Thursday night in Decatur.

Sept. 24/07

www.meridianstar.com

Junior College Football: No. 6 Pearl River 33, East Central 24

PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

AIRBORNE

East Central Community College's Maurice Langston goes airborne against Pearl River defenders during Thursday night action in Decatur.

Sept 2 '70

ECCC

From Page 1B

Beau Hannah of Morton added the PAT.

The drive covered 53 yards and took just six plays. The key play was a 13-yard scramble by Williams, a former standout at Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County High School, which gave EC possession on the Southwest 31.

East Central missed an opportunity to score early in the second period when Williams was intercepted on the one-yard line by Bear defender Rotedrick Cotton of McComb to nix the threat.

The Bears also missed a scoring opportunity late in the half when Les Mulkey's 42-yard field goal attempt was blocked by Warrior defender Travis Robinson with 21 seconds left before halftime and EC maintained its 7-0 lead.

Southwest got on the scoreboard on its first possession of the second half when quarterback EJ Legree of Beaufort, S.C., crossed the goal line from three yards out. The PAT failed.

East Central responded in grand style on the ensuing kickoff, as Langston broke clear for a 93-yard touchdown scamper. Hannah's PAT extended the Warrior lead to14-6 with 11:46 remaining in the third stanza.

The Warriors scored again to begin fourth quarter action, with Williams finding pay dirt on a five-yard run, capping a short 21-yard, five-play drive, set up by Langston's 36-yard punt return. Hannah again added the PAT and EC held a 21-6 advantage.

Southwest began its fourth-quarter rally with Mason, an Amite, La., native, firing a 13-yard touchdown strike to wide receiver Johnny Thomas of Kentwood, La., with 12:51 remaining. The scoring march covered 74 yards and took seven plays. The two-point conversion attempt failed.

The Warriors had a chance to score on their next possession, thanks to Langston's 31-yard kickoff return and subsequent face-mask penalty that gave EC excellent field position on the Southwest 39. However, the drive stalled and Hannah's 49-yard field goal attempt was blocked with 10:34 remaining.

The Bears took possession following the blocked field goal on their own 36 and drove to Warrior one-yard line, but were denied the end zone by a stubborn Warrior defense with 5:51 left.

Southwest was not to be denied on its next possession, however, as Mason and Thomas hooked up on a 36-yard touchdown strike with 3:30 remaining. Les Mulkey of Parklane kicked the PAT and the Bears trailed 21-19.

EC took possession on its 38-yard line following the ensuing kickoff and appeared to be in position for its third season win when Roosevelt Ross, the state's leading rusher, gained nine yards to the Southwest 48 on third and five with just over two minutes remaining.

But Ross, a former standout at Ocala-Forest (Fla.) High School, lost possession at midfield on the next play, and the Bears took advantage of the miscue three plays later with Mason scoring the game-winner on his five-yard run. The brief drive began with Mason completing a nine-yard strike to Robert Jordan of Miami, Fla., followed by a 36-yard strike to Thomas. The two-point conversion attempt failed.

EC took possession on its 29 following the ensuing kickoff and reached the Southwest 46 on Williams' 25-yard scamper. But on the next play Williams was intercepted by Cotton on the Bears' 42 and Southwest ran out the clock, preserving the upset victory.

EC had 12 first downs compared to 18 for Southwest.

The Warriors had 159 yards rushing and 74 yards passing for a 233 total.

Williams completed four of nine passes for 74 yards and one score. He had two interceptions. Langston was the top receiver with his 25-yard touchdown reception.

Williams was the leading rusher with 62 yards on 14 carries and one touchdown. Ross rushed 19 times for 54 yards and Langston added 42 yards on 13 carries.

The Bears had 416 yards of total offense, 302 through the air and 114 on the ground.

The Warrior defense was led by free safety Ray Frierson, a product of Hillcrest HS in Tuscaloosa, and linebacker Jamar Lawrence of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County, who had 11 tackles each. Linebacker David Brackett of Philadelphia- the state's leading tackler – had eight tackles. Brackett was injured prior to halftime and saw limited action in the second half.

East Central faces nationally ranked Pearl River Community College this Thursday, with kickoff set for 6:30 p.m. at Bill and Louise Bailey Stadium on the Decatur campus. The Wildcats, ranked the nation's top squad prior to their 24-17 loss to Gulf Coast.

All Warrior football games can be heard on KICKS 98 (98.3 FM) featuring veteran broadcasters Melvin Wooten and Gilbert Barham.

WEEK OF Sept. 24, 07

Warriors fall victim to fourth-quarter collapse

A fourth-quarter lead slipped away again for the East Central Community College Warriors, who dropped a 25-21 decision to Southwest Mississippi Community College Thursday night on Monroe McElveen Field at John I. Hurst Stadium on the Summit campus.

Southwest 25
ECCC 21

East Central held a 21-6 advantage early in the final stanza but the Bears rallied for three scores in the final 13 minutes, including a game-winning five-yard touchdown run by quarterback Walter Mason with 1:15 remaining.

The Warriors, who fell to 2-2 overall and 0-2 in the MACJC South Division, suffered a similar fate to visiting Jones County Junior College the previous week, losing 32-29 on a 27-yard TD pass with 17 seconds remaining. Southwest is now 2-2 and 1-1.

After a sluggish start for both offenses, East Central took a 7-0 lead when quarterback Deon Williams connected with running back Maurice Langston on a 25-yard touchdown pass with just over 10 minutes left before halftime. Langston, a Northeast Lauderdale product, caught the pass after the ball was tipped by Bear defender Myrio Cotton of Tylertown.

See **ECCC**, Page 3B

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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Sept. 24/07

Host Nationally Ranked Wildcats

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The Bears had 416 yards of total offense, 302 through the air and 114 on the ground.

ECCC PHOTO

Receivers on the 2007 East Central Community College football squad are (kneeling from left) *Michael Townsend, a product of Forest High School*, Lamar Truman, *Tremayne Bowie, Forest*, Spencer Spane, Katlan French, Donavan Tate. (standing from left) Justin Lenton, Kendrick May, Lamarcus Clayton, Freddie Parham, Joshua Williams, and Tyler Walker. Also pictured is *Derrick Qualls of Forest*, wide receivers coach.

WEEK OF Sept. 24/07

ECCC Warriors To

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR—East Central Community College will be aiming to snap its two-game losing skid Thursday night when the Warriors host nationally ranked Pearl River Community College in a MACJC South Division match-up. Kickoff is set for 6:30 p.m. at Bailey Stadium on the Decatur campus.

The Warriors, who are 2-2 overall and 0-2 league play, began the 2007 campaign with convincing victories over East Mississippi (31-20) and Mississippi Delta (35-7), and dropped its last two decisions to Jones County (31-29) and Southwest (25-21) when both teams rallied for late scores.

The Wildcats, rated the nation's top-rated squad prior to their 24-17 loss to Gulf Coast in week three, sport a 3-1 overall mark and are 1-1 in the division.

Pearl River has recorded wins over Mississippi Delta (50-10), Coahoma (35-0) and Copiah-Lincoln (14-2). The Wildcats are ranked sixth in the latest JUCO poll.

East Central has one of the league's top offenses, averaging 362.3 yards per contest. Sophomore running back Roosevelt Ross is among the state's top rushers with a 99.5-yard average per game and six touchdowns. The Warriors are allowing 347 yards per game.

Pearl River has the state's top passing attack, averaging 217.3 yards per game. The Wildcat defense is giving up just 213.8 yards per contest.

East Central will also be looking for its first win over Pearl River since a 21-6 victory in 2001. Warrior head coach Terry Underwood is a former assistant on the Wildcat staff.

The ECCC-Pearl River match-up is also "Be Our Guest Night" for area high school students, who will be admitted to the game free of charge.

The special guests will also have the opportunity to win various door prizes and one lucky student will have a chance to win free tuition for the 2008 fall term by successfully kicking a 20-yard field goal during halftime ceremonies.

ECCC Warriors fall victim to Southwest

SUMMIT—A fourth-quarter lead slipped away again for the East Central Community College Warriors, who dropped a 25-21 decision to Southwest Mississippi Community College Thursday night.

Hannah

East Central held a 21-6 advantage early in the final stanza but the Bears rallied for three scores in the final 13 minutes, including a game-winning five-yard touchdown run by quarterback Walter Mason with 1:15 remaining.

The Warriors, who fell to 2-2 overall and 0-2 in the MACJC South Division, suffered a similar fate to visiting Jones County Junior College the previous week, losing 32-29 on a 27-yard TD pass with 17 seconds remaining. Southwest is now 2-2 and 1-1.

After a sluggish start for both offenses, East Central took a 7-0 lead when quarterback Deon Williams connected with running back Maurice Langston on a 25-yard touchdown pass with just over 10 minutes left before halftime. Langston caught the pass after the ball was tipped by Bear defender Myrio Cotton. ***Beau Hannah of Morton*** added the PAT.

The drive covered 53 yards and took just six plays.

Southwest got on the scoreboard on its first possession of the second half when quarterback EJ Legree crossed the goal line from three yards out. The PAT failed.

East Central responded in grand style on the ensuing kickoff, as Langston broke clear for a 93-yard touchdown scamper. Hannah's PAT extended the Warrior lead to14-6 with 11:46 remaining in the third stanza.

The Warriors scored again to begin fourth quarter action, with Williams finding pay dirt on a five-yard run, capping a short 21-yard, five-play drive, set up by Langston's 36-yard punt return. Hannah again added the PAT and EC held a 21-6 advantage.

Southwest began its fourth-quarter

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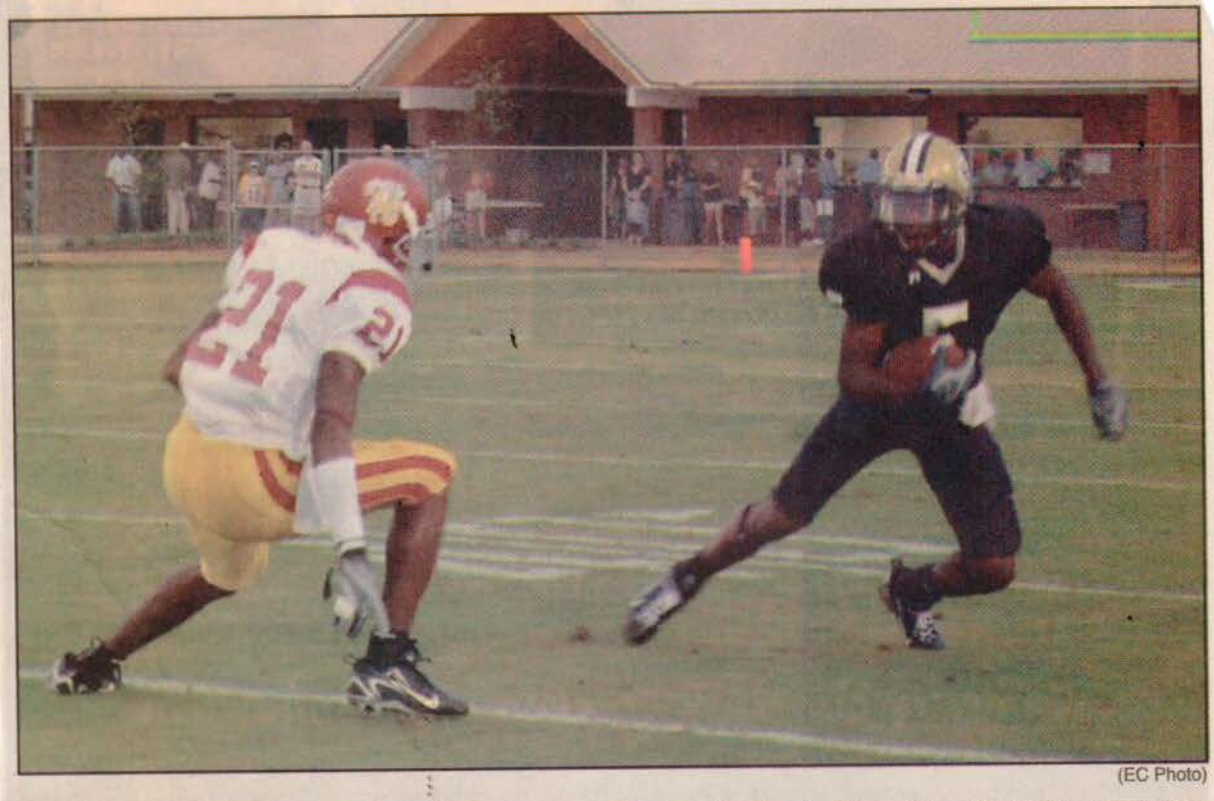
week of Sept. 17/07

Continued from previous page



(EC Photo)

Warrior wide receiver Freddie Parham (5) tries to avoid Jones' defender Mark Gray (21) during East Central's 32-29 loss to the visiting Bobcats Thursday night on the Decatur campus. Parham led all receivers with 127 yards on just four receptions. In the background is the new entrance to Bill and Louise Bailey Stadium, which was dedicated with a program and ribbon-cutting ceremony during pre-game activities. The 2007 Warrior baseball team was also honored for winning the state championship.

Neshoba Central, four tackles, two assists; defensive end Chris Ivy of Louisville, four tackles; strong safety Randy Carter of Quitman and Bryon Rizzi of St. Augustine (Fla.), both with three tackles, one assist.

East Central travels to Southwest Mississippi Community College Thursday, September 20. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m. on the Summit campus. The Bears are 1-2 following their 21-0 loss to Copiah-Lincoln Community College on Thursday.

WEEK OF Sept. 17/07

Late touchdown pass lifts Jones past EC

East Central Community College was just seconds away from upsetting eleventh-ranked Jones County Junior College but the Bobcats rallied with a 27-yard touchdown strike from quarterback Early James to wide receiver Tebiarus Gill with 17 ticks remaining to claim a 32-29 decision Thursday night at Bill and Louise Bailey Stadium on the Decatur campus.

Both squads entered the MACJC South Division opener with 2-0 records and the Warriors were in position to continue their win streak when fullback Vonzell Jackson of Aliceville, Ala., recovered running back Roosevelt Ross' fumble in the end zone, which gave EC a 29-25 advantage with 4:57 remaining.

But the Bobcats had other ideas and began the game-winning march from their own 37 with 1:47 remaining, and five plays later James and Gill hooked up for their third touchdown pass of the evening.

Warrior head coach Terry Underwood, a JCJC alumnus, was obviously disappointed following the heart-breaking loss.

"We made a lot of mistakes early on, but we really played well after that," Underwood told reporters. "But give Jones credit, they made the plays when they had to make them." East Central dominated the statistics battle, amassing 424 yards to 340 for Jones. The Warriors had a 15-11 advantage in first downs.

Ross, a former standout at Ocala-Forest High School in Ocala, Fla., led all rushers with 116 yards on 16 carries and scored two touchdowns- a one-yard plunge mid-way in the second quarter and a dazzling 56-yard scamper early in the final stanza, which gave EC its first lead at 22-18.

Running back Maurice Langston, a Northeast Lauderdale product, also had a productive night with 106 yards on 21 carries.

Quarterback Deon Williams, a former standout at Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County High School, was again effective in leading the Warrior offense. He completed six of 14 passes for 86 yards and rushed 14 times for 51 yards.

Wide receiver Michael Townsend of Forest also completed a pass, a 65-yarder to Freddie Parham, which set up a 30-yard field goal by Beau Hannah of Morton.

Hannah also connected on field goals from 37 and 30 yards and made two PATs. He also had another productive night kicking off and sent several kicks into the end zone.

Parham, a product of St. Clair County High School in Margaret, Ala., led all receivers with four catches for 127 yards. Other receptions were made by Kendrick May of Tuscaloosa County, one for 10 yards; Townsend, one for nine yards; and Katlan French of Starkville Academy, one for five yards.

Neshoba Central High School product Derek Crenshaw had another effective night punting, as he averaged 42.4 yards on five attempts.

For Jones, James completed 14 of 31 passes for 201 yards and connected on touchdown passes of 25 and 27 yards to Gill, and a 57-yarder to Marquese Ray of Wayne County. James, a product of Hahnville (La.) High School, also had seven rushes for 19 yards. Gill, who hails from C. F. (Ala.) Vigor High School, had five catches for 64 yards to lead Jones receivers.

Jasper Ducksworth of Mize was the top ground-gainer for the Bobcats, with 97 yards on 19 carries and one touchdown, an eight-yard scamper late in the second quarter.

Linebacker David Brackett of Philadelphia led Warrior defenders with nine tackles and one assist. Brackett entered the Jones' game as the state's leading tackler with 26 solo stops and 12 assists.

Other top defenders include nose guard Henry Scott, five tackles, one assist; linebacker Harvey Brown of

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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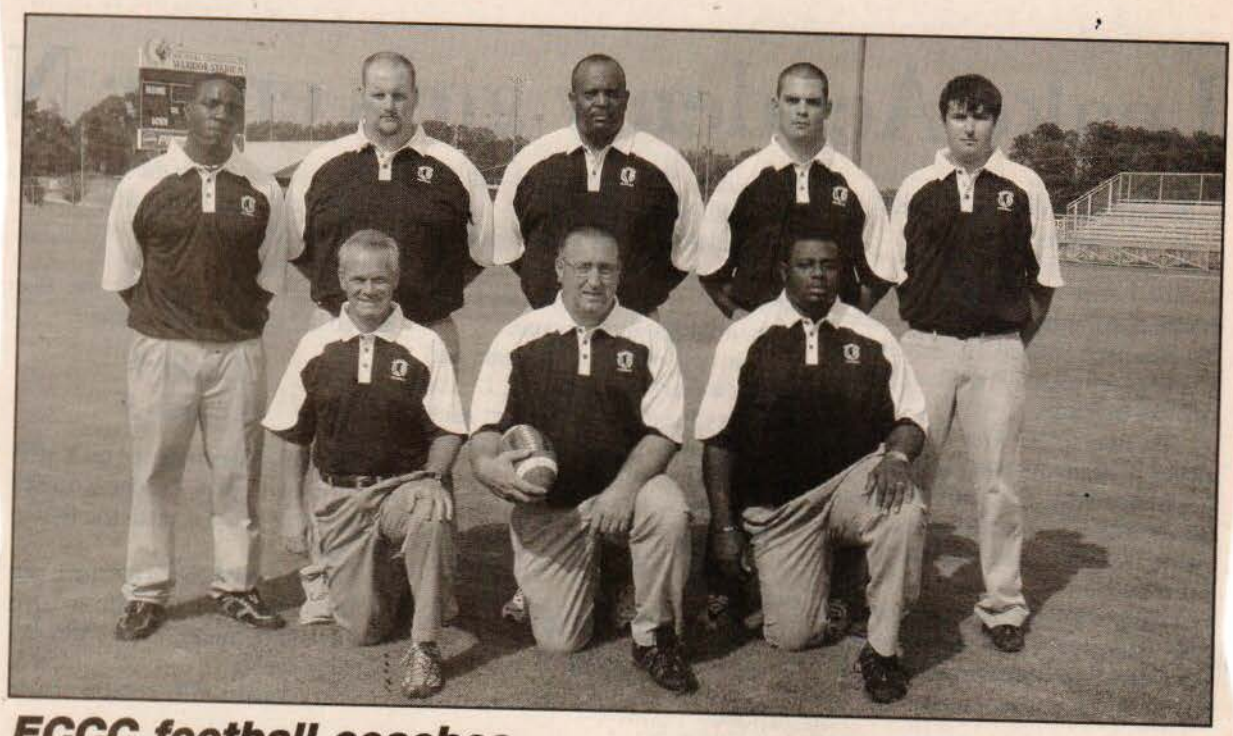
WEEK OF Sept. 17/07



ECCC football coaches

Football coaches at East Central Community College in Decatur for the 2007 season include (kneeling from left) Steve Cheatham, assistant head coach/defensive coordinator; Terry Underwood, head coach/offensive coordinator/quarterbacks/running backs; and James Miller, special teams coordinator/linebackers) and (standing from left) Derrick Qualls, wide receivers/tight ends; Kyle Watson, offensive line; Fred Lyons, nose guards/defensive tackles; and Brian Jones, defensive ends. Also pictured is Derrick Jones, athletic trainer, Rush Sports Medicine.(EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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NEWTON RECORD _____

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WEEK OF Sept. 10/07

Warriors take advantage of Trojan miscues in 35-7 defeat

Sophomore running back Roosevelt Ross scored three touchdowns and freshman defensive end Josh Lewis returned a fumble 82 yards for a score to lead East Central Community College to a 35-7 thrashing of Mississippi Delta Community College Thursday night at Jim Randall Stadium in Moorhead.

The Warriors improved to 2-0 following the non-division battle while Delta dropped to 0-2. The Trojans had seven turnovers, three of which resulted in EC touchdowns.

Lewis' long gallop to the end zone represented Delta's most costly miscue and came when the Trojans were in position for a possible game-tying score in the final moments of first-half action.

Trojan quarterback Jonathan Taylor, a 6-3, 253-pound freshman from Cleveland, had just completed a 28-yard scramble to the Warrior 18-yard-line when he lost possession of the ball as he headed out of bounds.

Lewis, a 6-4, 240-pound product of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County High School, scooped up the loose pigskin and rambled 82 yards for the score, escorted by several Warrior teammates.

ECCC coach Terry Underwood, whose Warriors are 2-0 for the first time since 2000, said he was proud of his team for overcoming a sluggish start and capitalizing on the Delta misfortunes.

"We were very opportunistic is the best way to describe our play against Delta," Underwood said.

"We weren't mentally ready as we were the first week, for whatever reason...we were flat, sluggish. Delta could have easily been up two or three touchdowns in the first half but their turnovers and our defense kept us in the game. Then our offense got clicking about eight minutes before the half and we played much better."

Underwood called Lewis' score "the biggest play of the game."

"It deflated their spirits and lifted ours," Underwood remarked of the bizarre play, "and possibly represented a 14-point swing."

The Trojans jumped out to a 7-0 lead when running back Justus Anderson of Greenwood found pay dirt on a four-yard scamper, capping an 88-yard, seven play drive as the first quarter ended. Chris Reifers added the PAT.

Ross registered his first tally with 3:19 remaining in the first half, following the Warriors' 70-yard march in just five plays. Derek Crenshaw of Neshoba Central added the PAT.

Highlights of the game-tying score included quarterback Deon Williams' 18-yard scramble, which gave EC possession on the Delta 33. Williams is a transfer from Valdosta (Ga.) State and a former standout at Tuscaloosa County.

Ross scored again on a two-yard plunge with just 20 seconds remaining before halftime, capping a 33-yard, six-play drive set up when defensive lineman Ken Whitfield of Louisville recovered a Trojan fumble. The PAT was added by Beau Hannah of Morton.

Lewis' fumble recovery and run as the half ended put the Warriors comfortably ahead by a 21-7 margin following Hannah's PAT, which was made from 35 yards out - the result of an "excessive celebration" penalty.

EC scored twice in the third stanza, the first coming on Maurice Langston's two-yard leap into the end zone with 11:09 remaining. Hannah added the PAT. The final tally resulted from Ross' 13-yard jaunt near the end of the period. Crenshaw booted the PAT.

Langston's score capped a 79-yard, six-play drive highlighted by the Northeast Lauderdale product's 34-yard reception from Williams to the Delta 46, and Ross' 36-yard scamper, giving EC possession at the Delta five-yard line.

Ross' third scored capped a 21-yard, four-play drive set up when linebacker Jamar Lawrence of Tuscaloosa County recovered a Trojan fumble during a punt return.

East Central had 269 yards rushing and 103 passing for a 372 total.

Ross was the leading ground gainer with 15 carries for 122 yards and three scores. Langston rushed 11 times for 61 yards and scored once.

Williams completed six of 15 passes for 85 yards and had one interception.

ECCC

Continued from page 2B

two catches for 26 yards; Langston one for 35 yards; and Lamarcus Clayton of Thomastown, one for 18 yards.

EC compiled 15 first downs, the same as Delta. The Trojans had 277 yards rushing and 142 passing for a 419 total.

The Warrior kicking game had another solid performance with Hannah and Crenshaw splitting duties. Both were perfect on their PATs, Hannah sent several kickoffs into the end zone (including one effort from the 20-yard-line) and Crenshaw averaged almost 36 yards per punt.

The Warrior defense was led by Lawrence who had 15 tackles, a fumble recovery and a quarterback sack. Linebacker David Brackett of Philadelphia had 12 tackles and free safety Ray Frierson, a product of Hillcrest High School in Tuscaloosa, had 10 tackles and one fumble recovery.

Also recording fumble recoveries were cornerback Fredrick Lyons of Newton County, Lewis and Whitfield (two).

Strong safety Brian Rizzi of St. Augustine, Fla., had an interception and linebacker Vonzell Jackson of Aliceville, Ala., was credited with a blocked field goal.

Massey completed one of two attempts for 18 yards. He also rushed six times for 38 yards.

Top receivers were Freddie Parham, a product of St. Clair High School in Margaret, Ala., who had

See ECCC, page 3B

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UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF Sept 10/07

ECCC

From Page 1B

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East Central could have possibly added a final score late in the game but basically ran out the clock with backup quarterback Jacob Massey of Union running the offense in his second appearance of the 2007 campaign.

Massey drove the Warriors from their own 21 to the Delta 10 and instead of attempting a field goal with 28 seconds left, EC kept the ball on the ground in an effort to run out the clock.

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

week of Sept. 10/07

The Newton Record

Wednesday,
September 12, 2007

SPORTS 1B

ECCC downs Delta, off to 2-0 start

Sophomore running back Roosevelt Ross scored three touchdowns and freshman defensive end Josh Lewis returned a fumble 82 yards for a score to lead East Central Community College to a 35-7 thrashing of Mississippi Delta Community College Thursday night at Jim Randall Stadium in Moorhead.

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ECCC 35
Delta 7

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ECCC coach Terry Underwood, whose Warriors are 2-0 for the first time since 2000, said he was proud of his team for overcoming a sluggish start and capitalizing on the Delta misfortunes.

"We were very opportunistic is the best way to describe our play against Delta," Underwood said. "We weren't mentally ready as we were the first week, for whatever reason...we were flat, sluggish. Delta could have easily been up

See **ECCC**, Page 3B

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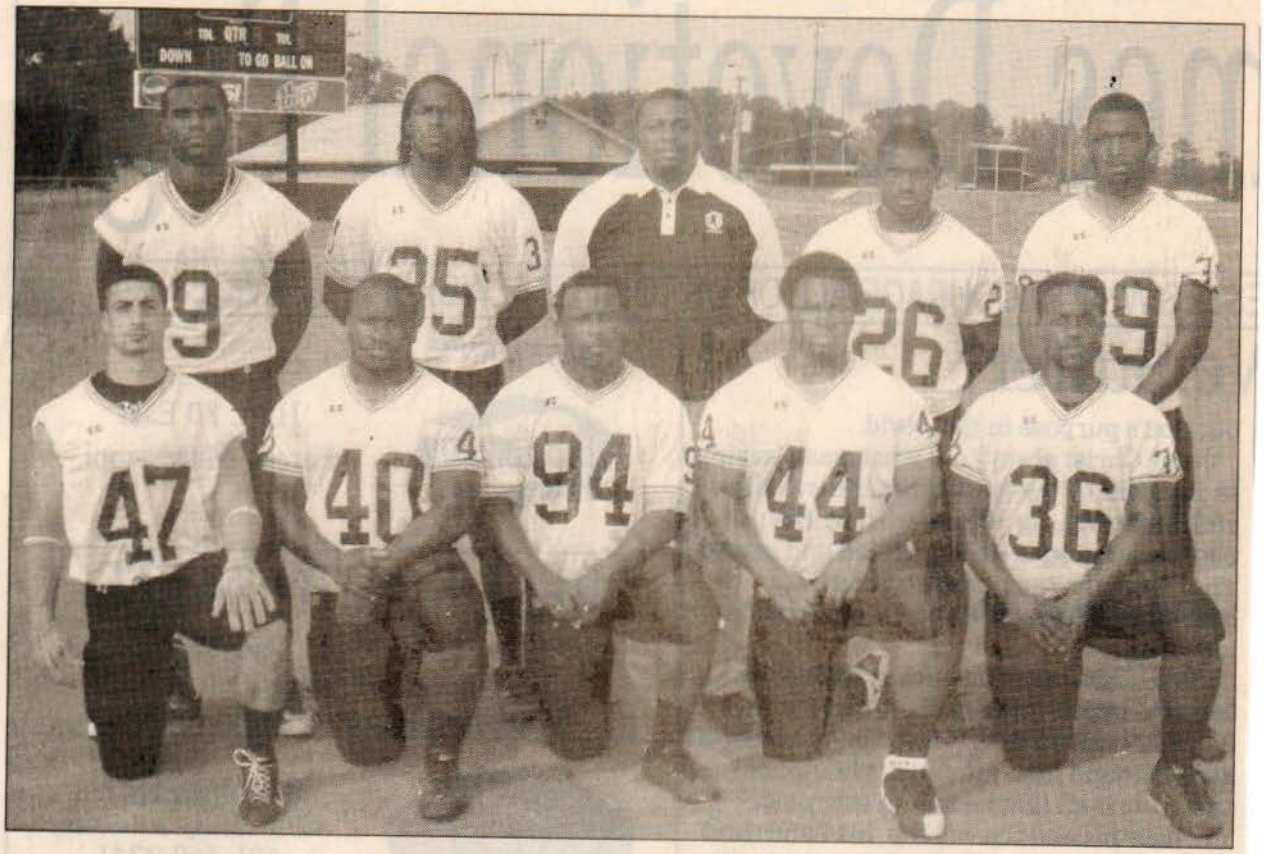
WEEK OF 9/10/07



ECCC PHOTO

ECCC LINEBACKERS ANNOUNCED FOR 2007 SEASON

Linebackers on the 2007 East Central Community College football squad are (kneeling from left) Bryon Rizzi, St. Augustine, Fla.; Harvey Brown, Neshoba Central; Colin Carvey, Warren Central; Anthony McDonald, 71st HS, Fayetteville, N.C.; and Brad Ellis, Forest; and (standing from left) Jamar Lawrence, Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County; David Brackett, Philadelphia; James Miller, linebackers coach; Ken Coleman, Louisville; and Randy Carter, Quitman. ECCC is located in Decatur, MS.

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LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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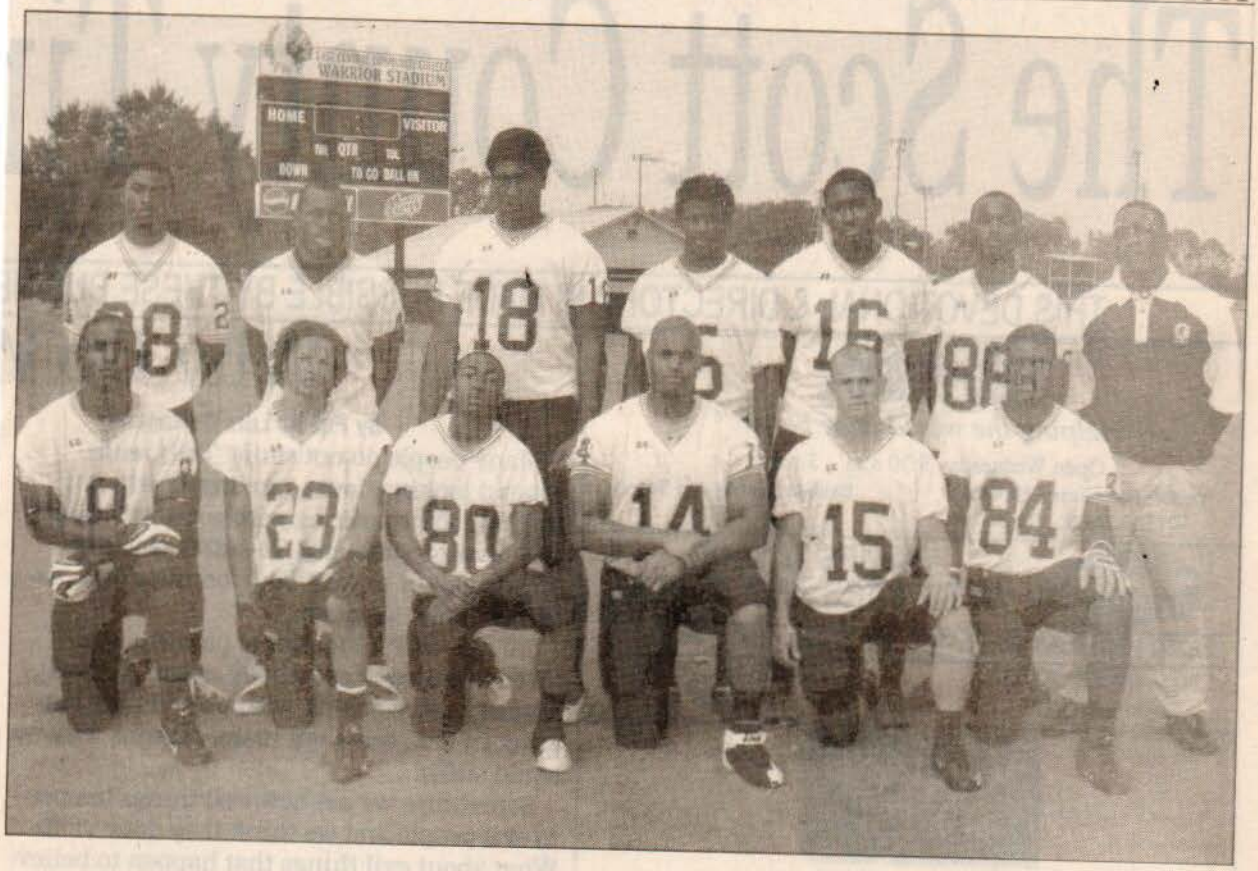
WEEK OF 9/10/07



ECCC PHOTO

ECCC RECEIVERS ANNOUNCED FOR 2007 SEASON

Receivers on the 2007 East Central Community College football squad are (kneeling from left) Michael Townsend, a product of Forest High School; Lamar Truman, Northeast Lauderdale; Tremayne Bowie, Forest; Spencer Spane, Terry; Katlan French, Starkville Academy; and Donavan, Tate, Hattiesburg; and (standing from left) Justin Lenton, West Lauderdale; Kendrick May, Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County; Lamarcus Clayton, Thomastown; Freddie Parham, St. Clair County HS, Margaret, Ala.; Joshua Williams, Jackson Lanier; and Tyler Walker, Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County. Also pictured is Derrick Qualls, wide receivers coach. ECCC is located in Decatur, MS.

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

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NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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Warriors host Bobcats in matchup of unbeatens

By Brandon Walker
Assistant sports editor

Just two games into the junior college football season, it is clear that the East Central Warriors are off to a running start — literally.

Following a renewed dedication to a rush-oriented offensive attack in the offseason, the Warriors have hit the ground running in 2007, blazing off to a 2-0 start.

Head coach Terry Underwood,s Warriors have dashed past East Mississippi and Miss. Delta in the opening two weeks behind an opportunistic defense and a punishing offense.

This Thursday, both units will be tested as the Warriors run up against their toughest test to date.

East Central will return to Decatur for its first home game of the year, as the Warriors welcome Jones County in a battle of unbeaten teams at Bill and Louise Bailey Stadium.

On the heels of a 35-7 pasting of Miss. Delta, East Central will look to continue its hot start. Standing in the way will be a Jones team that moved 12 spots in this week,s NJCAA poll. The Bobcats, fresh off a shutout victory of Northeast, enter this week's contest ranked 11th nationally.

Jones County's lofty ranking comes on the strength of a suffocating defense, which ranks second in the state and has allowed just 179 yards per game and one touchdown on the season.

The stingy Bobcat defense will be charged with the responsibility of slowing down an East Central attack which has topped the 30-point plateau in each of the first two weeks.

Behind the dynamic duo of sophomore running backs Roosevelt Ross and Maurice Langston, the Warriors lead the MACJC in total offense and rushing offense.

Averaging 5.9 yards per carry in the early going, East Central has tallied 272 rushing yards per game, while quarterback Deon Williams has given the Warriors balance under center, helping ECCC average just under 400 total yards per game to lead the state.

Ross and Langston, a product of Northeast Lauderdale, have each found the endzone three times so far, tied for second in the state among running backs.

Defensively, East Central enters Thursday's contest on the strength of a remarkable performance last week. The Warrior defense forced seven Delta turnovers, three of which led directly to ECCC touchdowns.

This week, East Central will be challenged to slow down JCJC running back Jasper Ducksworth, who has rushed for 162 yards and five touchdowns on the season.

Thursday night's tilt will be the MACJC South Division opener for both teams, each fighting to keep pace in a division with five unbeaten teams. Pearl River, Gulf Coast, Hinds, East Central, and Jones have all jumped out to 2-0 starts on the season.

Prior to kickoff, ECCC will hold a ribbon-cutting to showcase the new entrance to the stadium and will honor the ECCC baseball team, which won the 2007 state championship. Festivities will begin at 5:30 p.m.

Kickoff in Decatur is set for 6:30 Thursday night.

Lions look to break through at Miss. Delta

The EMCC Lions have been here before.

See **JUCO**
Page B3

week of Sept. 10/07

blast away Toronto

By The Associated Press

AL Roundup

TORONTO — Jason Giambi hit a grand slam, Jorge Posada added a solo homer and New York beat Toronto 8-2 on Tuesday night, the Yankees' sixth straight victory.

New York (82-62) has won 10 of its last 13 to move a season-high 20 games over .500. The Yankees are four games in front of Detroit in the AL wild-card standings after the Tigers split a dou-

in the AL Central.

The Rangers, who took an 11-0 lead in the first game, went up 1-0 on Byrd's sacrifice fly in the first inning of the nightcap, but Brandon McCarthy (5-9) couldn't survive the bottom of the inning.

Gary Sheffield's RBI single in the first ended an 0-for-25 slump, his longest since an 0-for-29 skid in 2002. Maggglio Ordonez and Ivan

Home, Ed Montague; First, Adam Dowdy; Second, Bill Miller; Third, Marvin Hudson.
T—2:59. A—32,719 (41,070).

TIGERS 4, RANGERS 1

TEXAS	ab	r	h	bi	DETROIT	ab	r	h	bi
Ctlnotto lf	4	1	2	0	Grndsn cf	3	1	0	
Kinsler 2b	4	0	2	0	Planco 2b	4	0	1	
MYong ss	4	0	1	0	Shffield dh	2	1	1	
MBrd cf	3	0	0	1	MOrdz rf	4	1	1	
Wlkrsn 1b	3	0	0	0	CGillen 1b	4	0	1	
Sosa dh	4	0	1	0	IRdrgz c	4	0	3	
Cruz rf	3	0	1	0	TPerez lf	4	0	1	
Laird c	3	0	0	0	Clevlen lf	0	0	0	
Hrst Jr 3b	2	0	0	0	Inge 3b	2	1	0	
Blalock ph	1	0	0	0	RSntgo ss	2	0	0	
Vzquez 3b	0	0	0	0					
Totals	**31**	**1**	**7**	**1**	**Totals**	**29**	**4**	**8**	

Texas	100	000	000	—	1
Detroit	310	000	00x	—	4

DP—Texas 2, Detroit 2. LOB—Texas 1, Detroit 6. 2B—IRodriguez (28). SB—Granderson 2 (22), Sheffield (21). S—RSantiago. SF—MByrd.

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WEEK OF Sept 10/07

PHOTO BY PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

TURNING THE CORNER

East Central's Roosevelt Ross heads around the corner to daylight in the Warriors' game against East Mississippi earlier this season. East Central will look to up their record to 3-0 when they take on Jones County Junior College at home Thursday night.

MERIDIAN STAR ✓
CLARION-LEDGER
IMPACT
UNION APPEAL
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL
SPIRIT OF MORTON
OTHER

WEEK OF Sept. 10/07

Page 3

ECCC

From Page B1

a pair of third quarter boots, cutting the lead to 18-15.

With the EC defense controlling the line of scrimmage, the Warriors finally took the lead early in the fourth quarter. When Ross scored on a 56-yard dash, the Warriors took a 22-18 lead, setting off a chain of events that would lead to the classic finish.

Jones took advantage of a pair of East Central mistakes, most notably a fumble by ECCC quarterback Deon Williams at his own 8-yard line. Three plays later, James and Gill hooked up for the second time on the night, swinging momentum back to the JCJC sideline.

While the steady rain that had been falling all night began to strengthen, ECCC came right back, as freshman Vonzell Jackson appeared to save the day for the Warriors. When Ross fumbled going into the endzone, Jackson alertly fell on the ball, giving East Central the touchdown and a 29-25 lead, setting up Gill's remarkable touchdown catch for the win.

"We gave it everything we had, but Jones made the plays," Underwood said. "You hate to see it come down to just a few plays, but this was a great football game."

James finished the night completing 14-of-26 passing for 217 yards and four scores to pace the Bobcats. Gill caught four passes for 71 yards and three scores.

For ECCC, Ross and fellow sophomore Maurice Langston proved to be the workhorses, with Ross delivering 117 yards on 13 carries and Langston adding 96 yards on 11 carries.

"Those two guys have been phenomenal all year," Underwood said of his running back duo.

With the win, JCJC improved to 3-0 on the season and 1-0 in MACJC's South Division.

Now at 2-1, East Central will be back on the road next week, traveling to Summitt to take on Southwest.

APPEARED IN:

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

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IMPACT _____

week of Sept. 10/07

LINE OF SIGHT

East Central Community College's Deon Williams finds a receiver as he gets ready to make his release against Jones County Junior College Thursday night in Decatur.

East Central falls just short in upset attempt

By Brandon Walker
assistant sports editor

DECATUR — On a night when East Central Community College held ceremonies to dedicate the new entrance to Bill and Louise Bailey Stadium, the Warriors nearly delivered a landmark victory.

Though East Central made big play after big play in pursuit of a win against 11th-ranked Jones County, it turned out to be a play that the Warriors failed to make that proved to be a difference maker.

With the visiting Bobcats trailing East Central 29-25 in the fading moments of Thursday night's game, Jones County quarterback Early James lofted a desperation pass toward the Warrior endzone.

While two ECCC defenders converged on the pass, neither could get a hand on it as Bobcat receiver Tebiarus Gill leapt up and snared the 26-yard touchdown, sending the JCJC sideline into a frenzy.

Despite being outplayed for the majority of the second half, Gill's third touchdown grab of the night gave the Bobcats an improbable 32-29 lead.

> *Give Jones credit. They made plays when they had to make them.*
>
> **Terry Underwood, ECCC coach**

Just 17 seconds later, East Central's final pass fell to the ground, giving the 11th-ranked Bobcats an unlikely win.

"We made a lot of mistakes there early on, but we really played pretty well after that," remarked ECCC head coach Terry Underwood, who watched his team fall to 2-1 with the heartbreaking loss. "Give Jones credit, they made plays when they had to make them."

Trailing 18-9 at halftime, East Central thoroughly controlled the second half, limiting Jones to just 57 second half yards before James engineered a 63-yard scoring drive for the victory.

James completed a pair of passes on the drive, both to Gill, to help the Bobcats snatch victory away from ECCC.

In the second half, East Central amassed 291 total yards and allowed just 120 to Jones. On the night, ECCC outgained the visiting Bobcats with a total of 429 total yards to Jones County's 349.

"Our defense was just outstanding," Underwood added. "We struggled early, but the effort tonight was everything a coach could ask for. It just wasn't meant to be for us tonight."

Jones struck first, as James completed his first five passes of the night for 142 yards and a pair of fist quarter touchdowns. James connected with Gill for a 27-yard strike to open the scoring before connecting with freshman Marquese Ray for a 57-yard touchdown just three minutes later.

Midway through the first quarter, Jones owned a commanding 12-0 lead.

ECCC sophomore running back Roosevelt Ross cut the lead in half midway through the second, crashing in from a yard out for the first of his two touchdowns.

On the ensuing drive, Jones halfback Jasper Ducksworth tacked on an 8-yard touchdown jaunt to give the visitors an 18-6 lead.

East Central kicker Beau Hannah kicked three field goals, a 37-yarder before halftime and

See **ECCC**
Page B3

Continued on next page (2)

Juco Football: Jones County 32, East Central 29

PHOTO BY PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

Continued on ~~page~~ Next page(1)

Week of Sept. 10/07

Week of Sept. 3/07

Continued from previous page

ground game, pick up win

Courtesy Photo

Warrior freshman running back Maurice Langston (22) rambles for yardage during East Central's 31-20 win over East Mississippi Thursday night in Scooba.

WEEK OF Sept 3/07

Warriors concentrate on

The "new" offense worked out just fine for head coach Terry Underwood and his East Central Community College Warriors who claimed a 31-20 season opening victory over long-time rival East Mississippi Community College on a soggy Sullivan-Windham field Thursday night in Scooba.

Underwood, who ditched the "spread offense" the Warriors used the past few years and returned to a more run-oriented attack, was obviously pleased with the results.

"This was a great team effort and I thought we played well in all areas – offense, defense and the kicking game," said Underwood, who is in his tenth year leading the Warrior football program. "It was a tough, hard-nosed game. East Mississippi has a good football team and I was very happy with the win."

The Warriors amassed 422 yards of total offense – which included 274 yards on the ground. Sophomore Roosevelt Ross of Ocala, Fla., and freshman Maurice Langston, a product of Northeast Lauderdale High School in Meridian, led the rushing attack, and sophomore Lamario Hopson of Meridian also had a productive outing as a sub in the final stanza.

Ross compiled 100 yards on 14 carries and Langston posted 123 yards on 19 attempts. Hopson added 29 yards on nine carries.

Although the emphasis this year is on the running game, the Warriors revealed an effective passing attack as first-year quarterback Deon Williams, a transfer from Valdosta (Ga.) State and former standout at Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County High School, completed nine of 18 passes for 148 yards and one touchdown – a 54-yard bomb to sophomore wide receiver Michael Townsend of Forest.

"We can throw the football," Underwood added, "as evidenced by the long touchdown pass Deon threw to Townsend and another great pass that Katlan (French) made that set up a score. But our fundamental philosophy is to run the ball first."

Underwood was also complimentary of the Warrior defense, which had the unenviable task of trying to stop the state's leading rusher from last year- LaGarrette Blount of Perry, Fla. Blount got most of his 119 yards in the first half, as the Warrior defense basically shut down the Lions' rushing efforts in the second half.

The Warriors and Lions had 14 first downs each. Townsend led EC receivers

with three catches for 107 yards and a touchdown. EMCC had 107 yards rushing and 169 yards passing.

Defensively, the Warriors were led by linebacker David Beckett of Philadelphia, who had 11 tackles and six assists.

The Warriors travel to Mississippi Delta Community College on Thursday for another non-division match-up. Kickoff is 7 p.m. in Moorhead.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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NEWTON RECORD _____

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Week of Sept. 3/07

Continued from previous page

season opening win at Scooba

ton County High School standout, recovered Blount's fumble on the EC nine-yard line.

SCORING SUMMARY

The Warriors jumped out to a 6-0 first-quarter lead on their first possession when Freddie Parham, a product of St. Clair High School in Margaret, Ala., tallied from eight yards on a flanker reverse with 10:54 remaining. The PAT was not successful as the snap from center was mishandled.

Key plays during the 10-play, 63-yard drive was Langston's 13-yard run on third and 10 that gave EC possession at midfield, and Ross' 27-yard scamper to the EMCC 19.

The Lions answered the Warrior score on their first possession, as quarterback James Patterson of Noxubee County High School found the end zone on an eight-yard run, capping a seven play, 60-yard march. Chandler Brooks of Grissom HS in Huntsville, Ala., booted the PAT and gave the Lions their only lead at 7-6.

The Warriors recaptured the lead late in the first period when Langston crossed the goal line from 14 yards out. The scoring drive covered 69 yards in just five plays and was highlighted by a face mask penalty on the Lions and a 22-yard run by Langston to the EMCC 16-yard line. EC successfully converted the two-point conversion on William's strike to tight end Spencer Spane of Terry, which extended the Warrior lead to 14-7.

EC stretched its lead to 21-7 midway in the second stanza when Williams and Townsend hooked up for a 54-yard touchdown pass. Derek Crenshaw of Neshoba Central added the PAT.

East Mississippi missed an opportunity to score late in the first half when Chandler's 30-yard field goal attempt was wide right with 12 seconds remaining.

The Lions did get on the scoreboard early in the third period on Blount's one-yard plunge. Chandler added the PAT.

WEEK OF Sept. 3/07

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

'New' ECCC offense grinds out 31-20

The "new" offense worked out just fine for head coach Terry Underwood and his East Central Community College Warriors who claimed a 31-20 season opening victory over long-time rival East Mississippi Community College on a soggy Sullivan-Windham field Thursday night in Scooba.

Underwood, who ditched the "spread offense" the Warriors used the past few years and returned to a more run-oriented attack, was obviously pleased with the results.

"This was a great team effort and I thought we played well in all areas – offense, defense and the kicking game," said Underwood, who is in his tenth year leading the Warrior football program. "It was a tough, hard-nosed game. East Mississippi has a good football team and I was very happy with the win."

The Warriors amassed 422 yards of total offense – which included 274 yards on the ground. Sophomore Roosevelt Ross of Ocala, Fla., and freshman Maurice Langston, a product of Northeast Lauderdale High School in Meridian, led the rushing attack, and sophomore Lamario Hopson of Meridian also had a productive outing as a sub in the final stanza.

Ross compiled 100 yards on 14 carries and Langston posted 123 yards on 19 attempts. Hopson added 29 yards on nine carries.

"We have three really good tailbacks and we are going to get them the football as often as possible," Underwood stated. "We wanted to establish the running game early and I thought we did that, thanks to our backs running hard and the excellent blocking from our offensive line."

Although the emphasis this year is on the running game, the Warriors revealed an effective passing attack as first-year quarterback Deon Williams, a transfer from Valdosta (Ga.) State and former standout at Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County High School, completed nine of 18 passes for 148 yards and one touchdown – a 54-yard bomb to sophomore wide receiver Michael Townsend of Forest.

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A key defensive series for East Central came late in the first half, when the Warriors – while leading 21-7-twice denied East Mississippi the end zone on first-and goal situations. The second threat ended when sophomore cornerback Fred Lyons, a former New-

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WEEK OF Sept. 3/07

East Central roars past Delta

from staff reports

JUCO FOOTBALL

Two weeks into the season, it seems that East Central Community College head football coach Terry Underwood's new philosophy is working.

The Warriors entered this season with a new commitment to the running game. Thursday night, that dedication was evident on four rushing touchdowns as the Warriors cruised to a 35-7 win at Mississippi Delta in Moorhead.

Sophomore running back Roosevelt Ross scored three touchdowns and the ECCC defense forced six turnovers to push the Warriors to 2-0 on the season.

Trailing 7-0 early in the second quarter, Ross delivered a 32-yard touchdown jaunt to even the score after Beau Hannah added the extra point.

Later in the quarter, Ross and the ECCC defense would team up to put the game out of reach.

In the last minute of the first half, ECCC forced a pair of Delta fumbles, the first of which led to a Ross two-yard scoring dive. Leading 14-7, the Warriors would find the endzone again just 20 seconds later, as defensive back Josh Lewis pounced on a Delta fumble and returned 80 yards for a score on the final play of the first half.

On the night, the Warriors converted 21 points directly from Delta turnovers.

In the second half, sophomore running back Maurice Langston scored from five yards out and Ross added a 12-yard scoring dash to give the Warriors the 35-7 win.

Now 2-0 on the season, East Central will return to Decatur next week for its first home game of the season. The Warriors will play host to Jones County Thursday night at 6:30.

— Brandon Walker

Southwest 12
EMCC 7

The Lions of East Mississippi Community College failed to get back on the winning track after losing their opener to East Central. Instead, the Lions came up short at Southwest, falling by a score of 12-7.

It was the second straight year Southwest held on for a close victory over EMCC. Last season, the Bears topped the Lions 22-20.

No other details were available.

EMCC will remain on the road next week, traveling to Moorhead to take on Mississippi Delta.

— Brandon Walker

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OTHER _____

WEEK OF Aug. 27

ECCC football managers

Serving as managers for the 2007 East Central Community College football squad are, from left, Lurenzo Jones and Michael Pientowski, both of Newton; Robert Warren, Neshoba Central; and Steven Landrum, Sebastopol.

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OTHER _____

Aug. 27

2007 ROSTER

1	Travis Robinson	CB	Soph	6-1	190	Tuscaloosa, AL
2	Ray Frierson	FS	Soph	6-0	180	Tuscaloosa, AL
3	Jarvis Wilson	DB	Fresh	6-1	180	Houma, LA
4	Kendrick May	WR	Fresh	5-10	165	Tuscaloosa, AL
5	Freddie Parham	WR	Soph	5-11	180	Margaret, AL
6	Vonzell Jackson	LB	Fresh	6-3	235	Aliceville, AL
7	Deon Williams	QB	Soph	5-10	190	Tuscaloosa, AL
8	Michael Townsend	WR	Soph	6-2	200	Forest
9	Jamar Lawrence	LB	Soph	6-1	220	Tuscaloosa, AL
10	Roosevelt Ross	RB	Soph	5-8	190	Ocala, FL
11	Dameon Brown	CB	Soph	5-10	165	Thomastown
12	Chris Ivy	DE	Soph	6-2	225	Louisville
13	Ken Whitfield	DL	Soph	6-1	245	Louisville
14	Spencer Spane	TE	Soph	6-3	260	Terry
15	Katlan French	WR	Soph	5-9	175	Starkville
16	Joshua Williams	TE	Fresh	6-1	255	Jackson
17	Jacob Massey	QB	Fresh	6-4	205	Union
18	Lamarcus Clayton	TE	Soph	6-4	260	Thomastown
19	Clint Coleman	CB	Fresh	6-1	180	Louisville
21	Lamario Hopson	RB	Soph	5-8	175	Meridian
22	Maurice Langston	RB	Fresh	5-11	180	Meridian
23	Lamar Truman	WR	Fresh	6-0	160	Meridian
24	Jorrick Calvin	CB	Soph	5-10	185	Baton Rouge, LA
25	Frederick Lyons	CB	Soph	5-11	175	Decatur
26	Ken Coleman	SS	Fresh	5-9	200	Louisville
30	Bruce Williams	FS	Fresh	6-3	180	Ridgeland
32	Marcus Travis	FB	Fresh	5-7	200	Petal
34	McKenzie Patrick	DE	Fresh	6-0	220	Forest
35	David Brackett	LB	Soph	6-1	190	Philadelphia
36	Brad Ellis	LB	Fresh	5-10	240	Forest
39	Randy Carter	SS	Fresh	6-0	189	Quitman
40	Harvey Brown	LB	Fresh	5-9	235	Philadelphia
42	Courtney Shelton	FB	Fresh	5-10	220	Tuscaloosa, AL
43	Josh Lewis	DE	Fresh	6-4	240	Northport, AL
44	Anthony McDonald	LB	Fresh	5-11	230	Fayetteville, NC
45	Mark Hoskins	DL	Soph	5-11	290	Louisville
47	Bryon Rizzi	SS	Fresh	5-10	190	St. Augustine, FL
50	James Jenkins	OG	Soph	6-2	245	Columbus
51	Will Butts	LS	Fresh	6-3	265	Louisville
52	Quintin Scott	OL	Fresh	6-1	330	Olive Branch
53	Terry Sparkman	OT	Fresh	6-4	295	Walnut Grove
54	Quan Lowe	DL	Soph	5-10	260	Tuscaloosa, AL
60	John Bailey	OT	Soph	6-0	250	Tuscaloosa, AL
64	Marquis Harris	OL	Soph	6-2	320	Meridian
65	Justin Moore	OL	Fresh	6-2	270	Carthage
66	Robert Gaston	OG	Fresh	6-1	280	West Point
71	Matthew Lewis	OT	Fresh	6-0	270	Hattiesburg
73	Zac Harris	OL	Soph	6-3	302	Meridian
74	Kieandre Jones	OT	Fresh	6-4	342	Tuscaloosa, AL
80	Tremayne Bowie	WR	Fresh	5-7	150	Forest
81	Beau Hannah	K/P	Fresh	6-2	190	Morton
83	Derek Crenshaw	K/P	Fresh	6-2	185	Philadelphia
84	Donovan Tate	WR	Fresh	6-2	195	Hattiesburg
96	Jasen Fairley	DT	Fresh	5-10	275	Collins
99	Henry Scott	NG	Fresh	6-2	315	Tulsa, OK

President: Dr. Phil A. Sutphin
Athletic Director/Head Coach: Terry Underwood
Assistants: Steve Cheatham, Brian Jones, Fred Lyons, James Miller, Derrick Qualls, Kyle Watson
Managers: Michael Pientowski, Steven Landrum, Robert Warren, Joseph Fitzhugh, Sam Evans, Steven Thames, **Statistician:** Scott Hill, **Video:** Lorenzo Jones
Athletic Trainer: Derrick Jones, Rush Sports Medicine, **Cheerleader Sponsor**: Huellen Watson

Back home at ECCC

Cheatham back for second stint with Warriors

By Robbie Robertson

The Newton Record

East Central may have several new assistant coaches, but there is nothing new about them.

After suffering through a two-win season, coach Terry Underwood decided to take the program in a different direction.

Offensive coordiantor Mike Volarvich took his talents elsewhere and Underwood took over control of the Warrior offense, changing to the other side of the football after serving as defensive coordinator the year before.

That left him with an opening and he didn't have to look far to find the replacement in former assistant Steve Cheatham, who was the head coach at Neshoba Central.

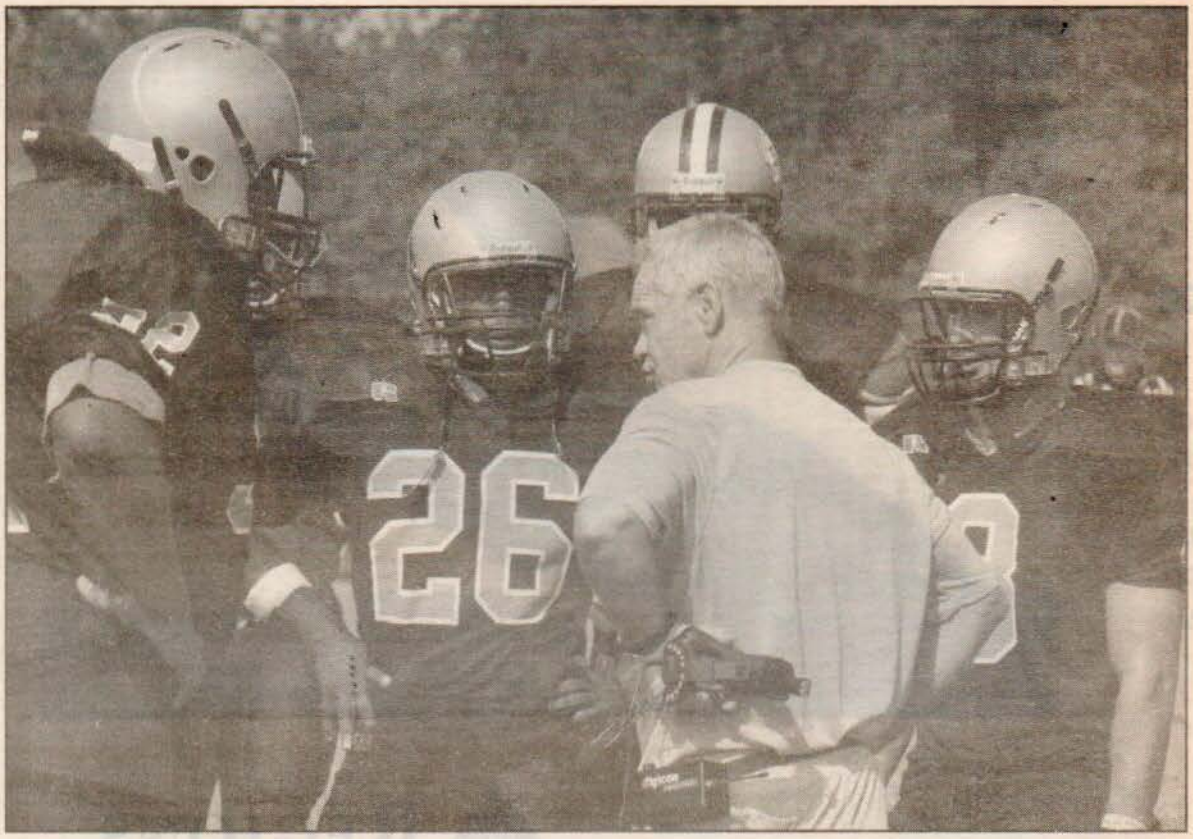
"Steve and I have coached together before and it was a blessing to get him back here," Underwood said. "He's coached on the high school, junior college and college level. He's like having another head coach and he's somebody that I have a lot of confidence in. He's got a great relationship with the players and the other coaches. He's certainly and asset to our program."

Cheatam has been around the world, so to speak. After serving as an assistant at Neshoba Central for more than 10 years, the Neshoba native stepped out and went to Clemson to become a graduate assistant under Ken Hatfield. After working there, he later came back to Neshoba County and became the head coach at Philadelphia High School. After leaving Philadelphia, he became an assitant at East Central. Then in a sudden move, he was named head of football operations at Ole Miss under David Cutcliffe.

After Cutcliffe left the program, Cheatham wasn't far behind and went back to his alma matter and became the head coach at Neshoba Central for the last two years.

See **CHEATHAM** on page 32

WEEK OF Aug. 27



ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

East Central Community Colege's Steve Cheatham talks with some of his defensive players during a recent scrimmage. Cheatham is back at East Central after working at Ole Miss and being head coach at Neshoba Central.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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The Newton Record Wednesday, August 29, 2007

Aug. 27

ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

East Central Community College's Roosevelt Ross runs through a defenderduring a recent scrimmage. Ross is likely to be the main benefactor from East Central's new run-first offense.

A new/old philosophy

Warriors instill new offense, defense with old coaches

sSpecial to the Record

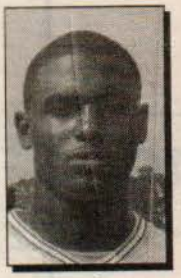
After several years of trying a variation of the "West Coast" offense, East Central Community College head football coach Terry Underwood said it's time for a change....time to return to the "run first" offense that the Warriors successfully used in the late 1990's, when Underwood first juggled duties as offensive coordinator and head coach.

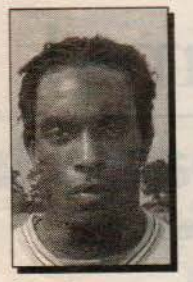
Underwood, who begins his tenth year leading the ECCC football program and second stint leading the offense, hopes the "new" offensive attack in 2007 will produce the same results experienced by the 1999 Warriors, who qualified for the state playoffs en route to an 8-3 record.

The first test of the "new offense" takes place against longtime rival East Mississippi Community College on Thursday, Aug. 30. Kickoff is set for 6:30 p.m. on the Scooba campus.

"We decided it was time to go back to what we have successfully done in the past - and that's run the ball first, then complement the running game with play action passes and a short passing game," said Underwood, who will also coach quarterbacks and running backs. "We have the skill guys to run the offense –which will also feature a lot of option plays - so this type of offense fits our

See **ECCC** on page 43





Hoskins

Aug 27

EAST CENTRAL CC WARRIORS

QUICK FACTS

Underwood

- **2006 Record:** 2-7
- **2006 Finish:** Did not make playoffs
- **Head Coach:** Terry Underwood (10th season, 44-50)
- **Assistant Coaches:** Steve Cheatham (Defensive Coordinator), James Miller (Special teams and linebackers), Kyle Townsend (Offensive line), Brian Jones (defensive line), Fred Lyons (defensive line), Derrick Qualls (Receivers and ends)
- **Region:** MJCCA South Division
- **Top Offensive Returnees:** Roosevelt Ross-RB, Freddie Parham-WR, Katlan French-WR, John Bailey-OT, Marquis Harris-OL, James Jenkins-OL,
- **Top Defensive Returnees:** Jorrick Calvin-DB, Jamar Lawrence-LB, Chris Ivy-DE, Mark Hoskins-DT, Taquan Lowe-NG, David Brackett-LB, Will Butts-Snapper

SCHEDULE

2006 RESULTS (2-7)

EMCC	W, 24-20
MISS. DELTA	L, 12-10
@ Jones	L, 13-7
SOUTHWEST	L, 33-15
@ Pearl River	L, 31-14
GULF COAST	L, 38-7
@ Co-Lin	L, 23-10
HINDS	L, 27-8
@ Coahoma	W, 20-13

2007 SCHEDULE

Aug. 30	@ EMCC
Sept. 6	@ Miss. Delta
Sept. 13	JONES
Sept. 20	@ Southwest
Sept. 27	PEARL RIVER
Oct. 4	@ Gulf Coast
Oct. 13	CO-LIN
Oct. 18	@ Hinds
Oct. 25	COAHOMA

THE LAST 10 YEARS

1997	7-3	2003	2-7
1998	3-7	2004	4-5
1999	8-3	2005	3-4
2000	6-4	2006	2-7
2001	6-4	10-year record	44-50
2002	3-6		

* denotes playoff appearance

Aug 27

signee, played in every game for East Central last year.

"He is a great talent and one of our team leaders," Underwood said of his top receiver.

Other top receivers are sophomores Michael Townsend, a 6-2, 200-pound product of Forest High School, and Katlan French, a 5-9, 175-pound former standout at Starkville Academy.

"Michael is playing as good as I have ever seen him play. Katlan is also having a great camp. Both are very talented."

Underwood also praised several offensive linemen.

"Marquis Harris (6-1, 290) of Meridian is starting at strong guard and James Jenkins (6-2, 245) of Columbus will start at quick guard. Both are really strong players and doing a great job. John Bailey (6-2, 245) of Tuscaloosa has moved to offensive tackle from the fullback and tight end positions and is also having a great preseason camp."

Additional players receiving praise on offense include fullback Marcus Travis (5-7, 200) of Perry Central, tight ends Spencer Spane of Terry, a transfer from North Carolina A&T, Josh Williams of Jackson Lanier and wide receiver Kendrick May of Tuscaloosa County.

"All of these guys have had good preseason camps. Kendrick is one of our fastest players and ran a 4.3 in a recent combine. He is going to be a really good player," Underwood stated.

Assisting Underwood with the offense are Kyle Watson (offensive line) and Derrick Qualls (wide receivers and tight ends).

Defense

Steve Cheatham returns as defensive coordinator and will also serve as assistant head coach. He spent the past two years as head coach at Neshoba Central High School and served the previous two years as director of football operations at the University of Mississippi.

Cheatham's defensive unit is also receiving praise from the head coach.

"We have a history of being strong on defense and I expect this could be one of the best defensive teams we've had," Underwood stated. "Our biggest concern is our size, however. We're not overly big but are very athletic, quick and fast."

Underwood said the leading returnee on defense is Jorrick Calvin, a 5-10, 185-pound product of Scotlandville High School in Baton Rouge.

"Jorrick did an outstanding job last year. He had five or six interceptions and 30-plus tackles. He is as good a cornerback as we have had here at EC, evidenced by the fact that he is being highly recruited by almost every team in the country. He is also a great kick and punt returner. We also plan to spot play him on offense."

Returning middle linebacker Jamar Lawrence, a 6-1, 220-pound product of Tuscaloosa County High School, is also expected to have another great year.

Also cited as defensive standouts are sophomores Chris Ivy, a 6-2, 225-pound defensive end from Louisville; Mark Hoskins, a 5-11, 290-pound defensive tackle from Louisville; nose guard Taquan Lowe, a 5-10, 260-pound product of Holt High School in Tuscaloosa, and David Brackett, a 6-1, 190-pound linebacker from Philadelphia.

Underwood also had praise for freshman linebackers Harvey Brown, a 5-9, 235-pound product of Neshoba Central High School, and Brad Ellis, a 5-10, 240-pound former standout at Forest High School.

He also mentioned freshmen Vonzell Jackson, a 6-3, 235-pound linebacker/defensive end from Aliceville (Ala.) High School; Josh Lewis, a 6-4, 240-pound defensive end from Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County High School; and Henry Scott, a 6-2, 215-pound nose guard from Will Rogers High School in Tulsa, OK, all of whom had a productive preseason camp.

WEEK OF Aug. 27

The 2007 East Central Community College football team

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

Aug. 27

From Page 14

ECCC

personnel."

The Warrior offense will be led by first-year quarterback Deon Williams, a transfer from Valdosta (Ga.) State. Underwood said Williams, a former standout at Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County High School, "has a tremendous amount of talent" and "knows what it takes to win."

Underwood also has praise for freshman quarterback Jacob Massey of Union.

"Jacob is a really good athlete and has had a great preseason camp. He's been here all summer working out and going to school and his efforts have really paid off. I really feel good about Deon and Jacob running the offense."

Expected to be the "workhorse" in the Warrior backfield is sophomore running back Roosevelt Ross, a 5-8, 190-pound product of Ocala-Forest High School in Ocala, Fla.

"Roosevelt has a great attitude and we expect him to have another productive season," Underwood stated.

Ross will sharing running back duties with Maurice Langston, a red shirt freshman and Northeast Lauderdale High School product.

"Maurice is a strong leader and a great talent," Underwood said. "I look for big things from him and Roosevelt this year."

Returning at wide receiver is Freddie Parham, a 5-11, 180-pound product of St. Clair County High School in Odenville, Ala.

Parham, a University of Southern Mississippi

WEEK OF Aug. 27

➤ ECCC

from 28

of whom had a productive preseason camp.

Assisting Cheatham in coaching the defense are Fredrick Lyons (nose guards and defensive tackles), James Miller (linebackers and special teams) and Brian Jones (defensive ends).

Underwood said he is "very pleased" with the kicking game.

"I am probably more excited about our kicking game than I have been in many years. We have two outstanding kickers and punters in Beau Hannah (6-2, 190) of Morton, a transfer from Mississippi State University, and Derek Crenshaw (6-2, 185) of Neshoba Central," Underwood stated. "Both are kicking the ball well and will probably share kicking and punting duties."

Underwood said Will Butts, a 6-3, 265-pound sophomore from Louisville, will be the long snapper.

"Will is the best long snapper I have ever coached," Underwood stated. "He can snap the ball very fast which is obviously very important in having an effective kicking and punting game."

In addition to having a winning season, Underwood said his players have made it clear that the ultimate goal is to make the playoffs.

"It's been a while (1999) since we advanced to the post-season and our guys have made it clear that we want to play for a championship. This is a good group, and we know that if we make it to the playoffs, we have a chance to possibly win a state title and play in a bowl game," Underwood said. "This team is very close and is getting closer, thanks to a good group of freshmen and the leadership shown by our sophomores. This bunch has come together well and I think some special things could happen. I am excited about their attitude and their passion for this season. We have a tough opener at East Mississippi...but I think our guys will be up for the challenge and ready to begin the season."

The Warriors will also be on the road for week two of the 2007 campaign as they will be guests of Mississippi Delta Community College on Thursday, Sept. 6, for a 7 p.m. kickoff on the Moorhead campus.

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OTHER _____

Aug. 27

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Assisting Underwood with the offense are Kyle Watson (offensive line) and Derrick Qualls (wide receivers and tight ends).

Steve Cheatham returns as defensive coordinator and will also serve as assistant head coach. He spent the past two years as head coach at Neshoba Central High School and served the previous two years as director of football operations at the University of Mississippi.

Cheatham's defensive unit is also receiving praise from the head coach.

"We have a history of being strong on defense and I expect this could be one of the best defensive teams we've had," Underwood stated. "Our biggest concern is our size, however. We're not overly big but are very athletic, quick and fast."

Underwood said the leading returnee on defense is Jorrick Calvin, a 5-10, 185-pound product of Scotlandville High School in Baton Rouge.

Returning middle linebacker Jamar Lawrence, a 6-1, 220-pound product of Tuscaloosa County High School, is also expected to have another great year.

Also cited as defensive standouts are sophomores Chris Ivy, a 6-2, 225-pound defensive end from Louisville; Mark Hoskins, a 5-11, 290-pound defensive tackle from Louisville; nose guard Taquan Lowe, a 5-10, 260-pound product of Holt High School in Tuscaloosa, and David Brackett, a 6-1, 190-pound linebacker from Philadelphia.

Underwood also had praise for freshman linebackers Harvey Brown, a 5-9, 235-pound product of Neshoba Central High School, and Brad Ellis, a 5-10, 240-pound former standout at Forest High School.

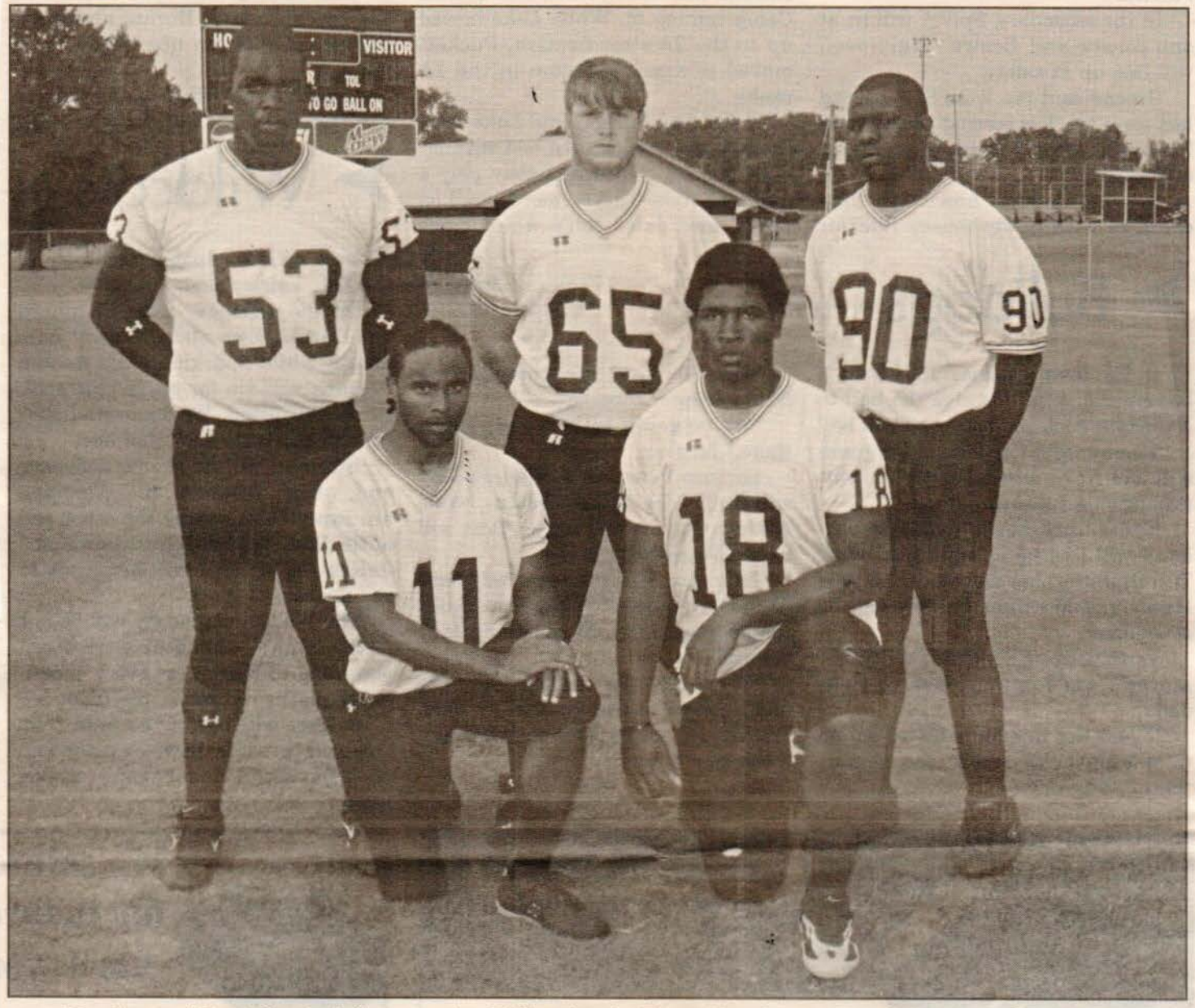
He also mentioned freshmen Vonzell Jackson, a 6-3, 235-pound linebacker/defensive end from Aliceville (Ala.) High School; Josh Lewis, a 6-4, 240-pound defensive end from Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County High School; and Henry Scott, a 6-2, 215-pound nose guard from Will Rogers High School in Tulsa, OK, all

➤ **See ECCC on 29**

Aug. 27

August 30, 2007

to 'run first', pass later



Members of East Central Community College's football squad for the 2007 campaign from Leake County are, from left, kneeling, Dameon Brown and tight end Lamarcus Clayton, both products of Thomastown High School; standing, offensive tackle Terry Sparkman, South Leake; offensive lineman Justin Moore, Leake Academy; and defensive end L. A. Jones, a product of Carthage High School. (EC Photo)

Aug. 27

"Roosevelt has a great attitude and we expect him to have another productive season," Underwood stated.

Ross will be sharing running back duties with Maurice Langston, a red shirt freshman and Northeast Lauderdale High School product.

Returning at wide receiver is Freddie Parham, a 5-11, 180-pound product of St. Clair County High School in Odenville, Ala.

Other top receivers are sophomores Michael Townsend, a 6-2, 200-pound product of Forest High School, and Katlan French, a 5-9, 175-pound former standout at Starkville Academy.

Additional players receiving praise on offense include fullback Marcus Travis (5-7, 200) of Perry Central, tight ends Spencer Spane of

Aug. 27

EC Warriors

After several years of trying a variation of the "West Coast" offense, East Central Community College head football coach Terry Underwood said it's time for a change....time to return to the "run first" offense that the Warriors successfully used in the late 1990's, when Underwood first juggled duties as offensive coordinator and head coach.

Underwood, who begins his tenth year leading the ECCC football program and second stint leading the offense, hopes the "new" offensive attack in 2007 will produce the same results experienced by the 1999 Warriors, who qualified for the state playoffs en route to an 8-3 record.

"We decided it was time to go back to what we have successfully done in the past - and that's run the ball first, then complement the running game with play action passes and a short passing game," said Underwood, who will also coach quarterbacks and running backs. "We have the skill guys to run the offense –which will also feature a lot of option plays - so this type of offense fits our personnel."

The Warrior offense will be led by first-year quarterback Deon Williams, a transfer from Valdosta (Ga.) State. Underwood said Williams, a former standout at Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County High School, "has a tremendous amount of talent" and "knows what it takes to win."

Underwood also has praise for freshman quarterback Jacob Massey of Union.

Expected to be the "workhorse" in the Warrior backfield is sophomore running back Roosevelt Ross, a 5-8, 190-pound product of Ocala-Forest High School in Ocala, Fla.

WEEK OF Aug. 27

m Record

Wednesday, August 29, 2007

ECCC

From Page 1B

Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County. Also expected to see action at the quarterback spot is freshman Jacob Massey, a 6-4, 205-pound product of Union High School.

In the backfield, sophomore Roosevelt Ross (5-8, 190) of Ocala-Forest (Fla.) High School and freshman Maurice Langston (5-11, 180) of Northeast Lauderdale will see most of the action along with Lemario Hopson (5-8, 175) of Meridian but Marcus Travis (5-7, 200) of Petal, Courtney Shelton (5-10, 220) of Tuscaloosa Academy and Anthony McDonald (5-11, 230) of 71st High School in Fayetteville, N.C., are also expected to receive plenty of playing time.

Alternating at the wide receiver position will be Michael Townsend (6-2, 200) of Forest, Freddie Parham (5-11, 180) of St. Clair County HS in Margaret, Ala., Katlan French (5-9, 175) of Starkville Academy, Lamar Truman (6-0, 160) of Meridian and Kendrick May (5-10, 165) of Tuscaloosa County.

Starters at tight end will be Spencer Spane (6-3, 260) of Terry or Joshua Williams (6-1, 255) of Jackson Lanier. Lamar Clayton (6-4, 260) of Thomastown will also see action at tight end.

In the strong tackle spot will be Matthew Lewis (6-0, 270) of Forrest County AHS in Hattiesburg or Kieandre Jones (6-4, 342) of Hillcrest HS in Tuscaloosa. Strong guards are Marquis Harris (6-2, 320) and Zac Harris (6-3, 302), both of Meridian. Quintin Scott (6-1,330) of DeSoto Central and Justin Moore (6-2, 270) of Leake Academy will both see action at center. Quick tackles are John Bailey (6-0, 250) of Hillcrest HS or Terry Sparkman (6-4, 295) of South Leake, and at the quick guard position will be James Jenkins (6-2, 245) of Columbus or Robert Gaston (6-1, 280) of West Point.

Beau Hannah (6-2, 190) of Morton will handle kicking duties and Derek Crenshaw (6-2, 185) of Neshoba Central will do the punting. Both will share field goal and PAT responsibilities.

Parham, Langston and Jorrick Calvin (5-10,185) of Scotlandville Magnet HS in Baton Rouge will return punts and kickoffs.

On the defensive side, coordinator Steve Cheatham has named the following starters and other players expected to see playing time:

Cornerbacks: Travis Robinson (6-1, 190) of Hillcrest, Dameon Brown (5-10, 165) of Thomastown, Jorrick Calvin (5-10, 185) of Scotlandville Magnet HS in Baton Rouge, Fred Lyons (5-11, 175), a product of Newton County High School and Clint Coleman (6-1, 180) of Louisville; free safety: Ray Frierson (6-0, 180) of Hillcrest and Bruce Williams (6-3, 180) of Ridgeland; drop safety: Jarvis Wilson (6-1, 180) of Hillcrest and Ken Coleman (5-9, 200) of Louisville; strong safety: Bryon Rizzi (5-10, 190), St. Augustine (Fla.) High School; linebackers: Jamar Lawrence (6-1, 220) of Tuscaloosa County, David Brackett (6-1, 190) of Philadelphia, Brad Ellis (5-10, 240) of Forest and Harvey Brown (5-9, 235) of Neshoba Central; rush position: Vonzell Jackson (6-3, 235) of Aliceville (Ala.) HS and Chris Ivy (6-2, 225) of Louisville; defensive ends: Josh Lewis (6-4, 240) of Tuscaloosa County, Ken Whitfield (6-1, 245) of Louisville and McKenzie Patrick (6-0, 220) of Forest; defensive tackles: Mark Hoskins (5-11, 290) of Louisville or Jasen Fairley (5-10, 275) of Collins; nose guard: Quan Lowe (5-10, 260) of Holt HS and Henry Scott (6-2, 315), a product of Will Rogers HS, Tulsa, OK.

All Warrior football games can be heard on Kicks 98 (98.3 FM) featuring veteran sportscasters Melvin Wooten and Gilbert Barham.

EMOCRAT _____

ECORD ✓ _____

STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

Aug. 27

Warriors hit road for opener vs. EMCC

East Central Community College will be seeking a fourth-straight win over East Mississippi Community College when the longtime rivals begin season action Thursday in a 6:30 p.m. kickoff on the Scooba campus.

The Warriors won last year's contest by a 24-21 margin, and posted 26-0 and 44-7 victories during the 2005 and 2004 campaigns, respectively.

Underwood

ECCC head coach Terry Underwood, who begins his tenth season at the Warrior helm, expects Coach Roger Carr and his Lions to be "especially fired up" in hopes of snapping the losing skid.

"We've had a great rivalry with East Mississippi throughout the years and we expect they'll be ready to play," Underwood said. "Both teams will be hungry to begin the season on a positive note."

Underwood, who also serves as offensive coordinator, said first-year quarterback Deon Williams, a 5-10, 190-pound sophomore who transferred from Valdosta (Ga.) State, will lead the offense. Williams is a former standout at

See **ECCC**, Page 2B

ECCC Warriors seeking success in 2007 with strong ground game

After several years of trying a variation of the "West Coast" offense, East Central Community College head football coach Terry Underwood said it's time for a change....time to return to the "run first" offense, that the Warriors successfully used in the late 1990's, when Underwood first juggled duties as offensive coordinator and head coach.

Underwood

Underwood, who begins his 10th year leading the ECCC football program and second stint leading the offense, hopes the "new" offensive attack in 2007 will produce the same results experienced by the 1999 Warriors, who qualified for the state playoffs en route to an 8-3 record.

The first test of the "new offense" takes place against longtime rival East Mississippi Community College on Thursday, August 30. Kickoff is set for 6:30 p.m. on the Scooba campus.

"We decided it was time to go back to what we have successfully done in the past - and that's run the ball first, then complement the running game with play action passes and a short passing game," said Underwood, who will also coach quarterbacks and running backs. "We have the skill guys to run the offense –which will also feature a lot of option plays - so this type of offense fits our personnel."

The Warrior offense will be led by first-year quarterback Deon Williams, a transfer from Valdosta (Ga.) State. Underwood said Williams, a former standout at Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County High School, "has a tremendous amount of talent" and "knows what it takes to win."

Underwood also has praise for freshman quarterback Jacob Massey of Union.

"Jacob is a really good athlete and has had a great preseason camp. He's been here all summer working out and going to school and his efforts have really paid off. I really feel good about Deon and Jacob running the offense."

Expected to be the "workhorse" in the Warrior backfield is sophomore running back Roosevelt Ross, a 5-8, 190-pound product of Ocala-Forest High School in Ocala, Fla.

"Roosevelt has a great attitude and we expect him to have another productive season," Underwood stated.

Ross will sharing running back duties with Maurice Langston, a red shirt freshman and Northeast Lauderdale High School product.

"Maurice is a strong leader and a great talent," Underwood said. "I look for big things from him and Roosevelt this year."

Returning at wide receiver is Freddie Parham, a 5-11, 180-pound product of St. Clair County High School in Odenville, Ala.

Parham, a University of Southern Mississippi signee, played in every game for East Central last year.

"He is a great talent and one of our team leaders," Underwood said of his top receiver.Other top receivers are sophomores Michael Townsend, a 6-2, 200-pound product of Forest High School, and Katlan French, a 5-9, 175-pound former standout at Starkville Academy.

"Michael is playing as good as I have ever seen him play. Katlan is also having a great camp. Both are very talented."

Underwood also praised several offensive linemen.

"Marquis Harris (6-1, 290) of Meridian is starting at strong guard and James Jenkins (6-2, 245) of Columbus will start at quick guard. Both are really strong players and doing a great job. John Bailey (6-2, 245) of Tuscaloosa has moved to offensive tackle from the fullback and tight end positions and is also having a great preseason camp."

Additional players receiving praise on offense include fullback Marcus Travis (5-7, 200) of Perry Central, tight ends Spencer Spane of Terry, a transfer from North Carolina A&T, Josh Williams of Jackson Lanier and wide receiver Kendrick May of Tuscaloosa County.

"All of these guys have had good preseason camps. Kendrick is one of our fastest players and ran a 4.3 in a recent combine. He is going to be a really good player," Underwood stated.

Assisting Underwood with the offense are Kyle Watson (offensive line) and Derrick Qualls (wide receivers and tight ends).

DEFENSE

Steve Cheatham returns as defensive coordinator and will also serve as assistant head coach. He spent the past two years as head coach at Neshoba Central High School and served the previous two years as director of football operations at the University of

See **ECCC**, page 22

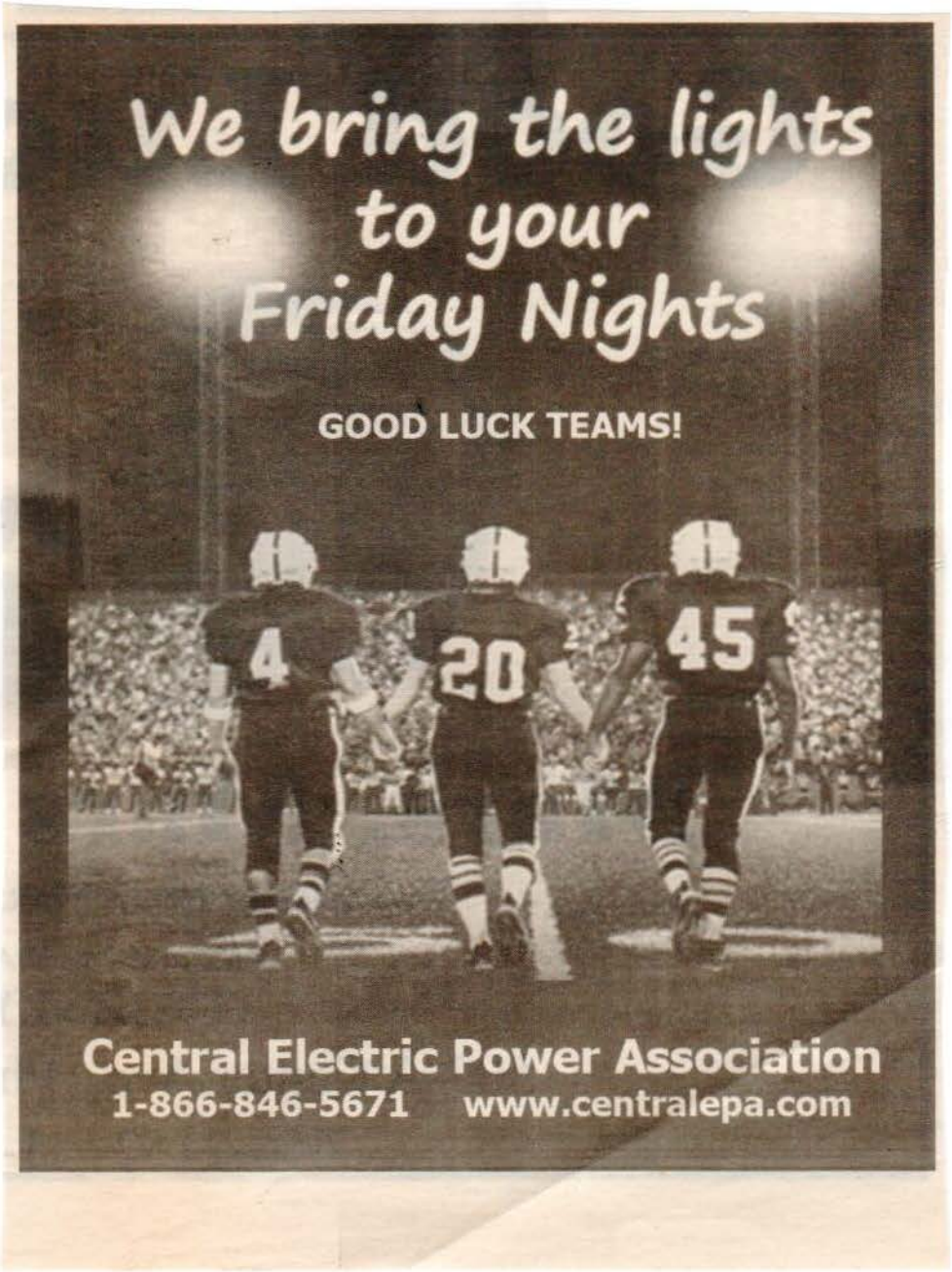
Aug. 2

EAST CENTRAL

WARRIORS

Aug. 27

Aug. 27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Central Electric Power Association
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Aug. 27

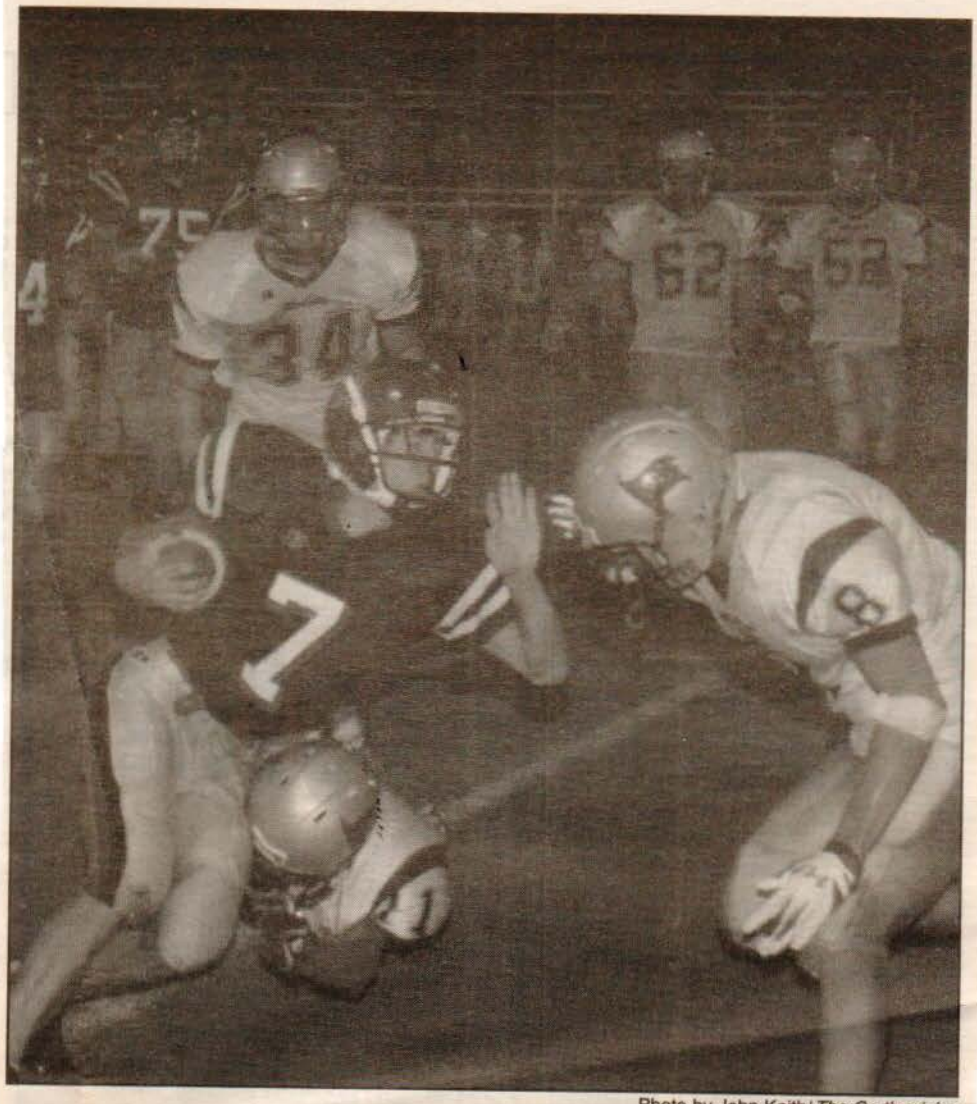


Photo by John Keith/ *The Carthaginian*

Leake Academy's Brian Saxon tries to avoid the tackle of two Heidelberg Academy defenders. The Rebels are looking to have another successful season behind veterans like Saxon.

Aug. 27

2007 Warrior Football Schedule

Thursday, Aug. 30	East MS	Scooba	6:30 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 6	MS Delta	Moorhead	7 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 13	Jones	Decatur	6:30 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 20	Southwest	Summit	7 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 27	Pearl River	Decatur	6:30 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 4	Gulf Coast	Perkinston	7 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 13*	Co-Lin	Decatur	2:30 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 18	Hinds	Raymond	7:30 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 25	Coahoma	Decatur	6:30 p.m.

(*Homecoming)

All Warrior Football Games Can Be Heard on Kicks98 *(FM 98.3 in Carthage)*
Featuring ECCC Alumni Melvin Wooten ('69) and Gilbert Barham ('74).

East Central Community College

P.O. Box 129 • Decatur, MS 39327
1-877-462-3222 • www.eccc.edu

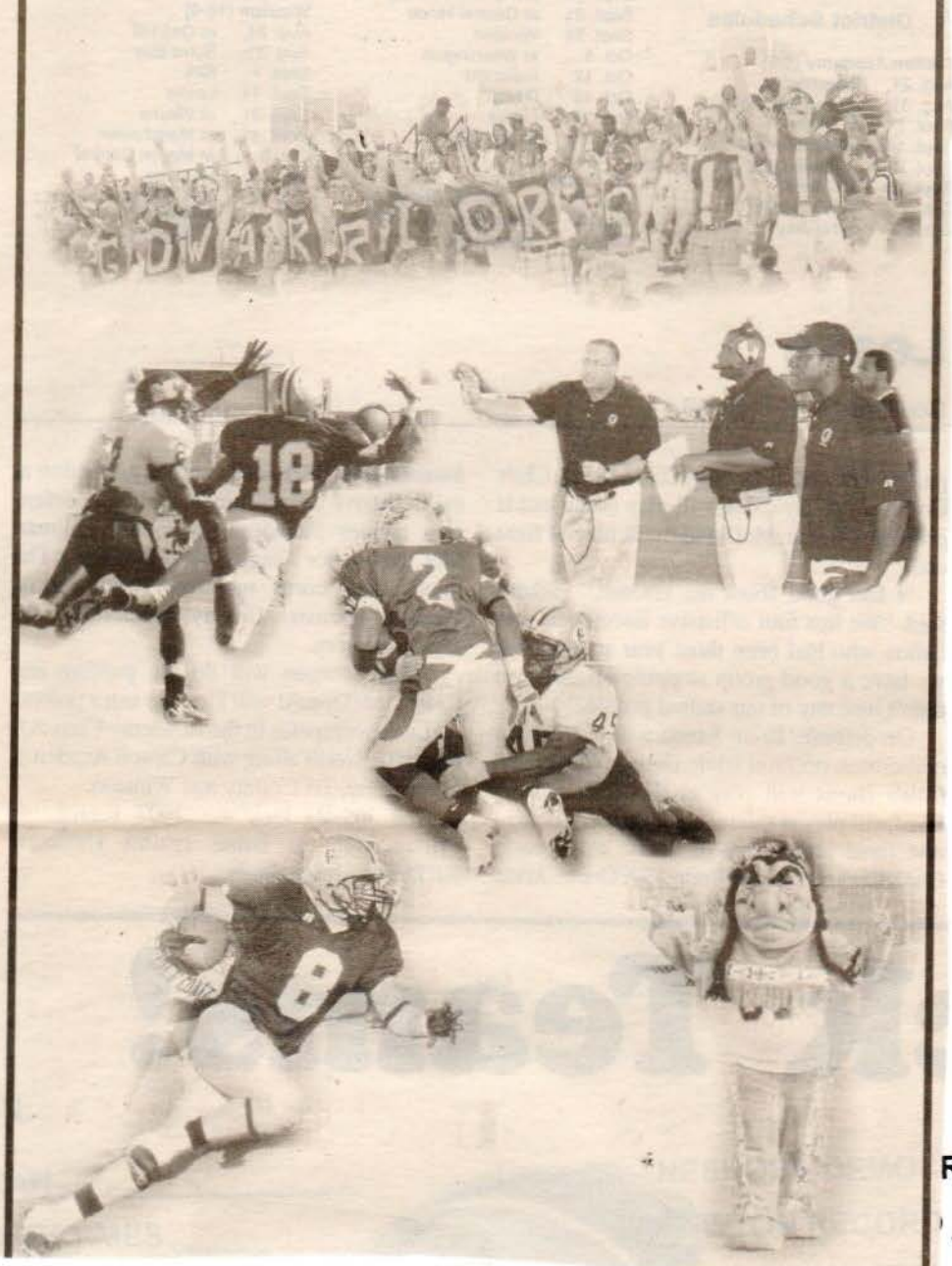
ECCC
WITH YOU IN MIND

East Central Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age or handicap. The College is in compliance with Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Title IX of the 1972 Educational Amendments, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the Right to Know Campus Security Act of 1990.

WEEK OF Aug. 22

Score BigWith MY EC!

Visit us during a game or schedule an appointment at your convenience to see what My EC is all about. From the many extra-curricular activities to academic classes, My EC has it all!



RAT ✓

UNION APPEAL

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

SPIRIT OF MORTON

MERIDIAN

CLARION-LEDGER

OTHER

WEEK OF Aug. 27

Warriors

From Page 3

"Michael is playing as good as I have ever seen him play. Katlan is also having a great camp. Both are very talented."

Underwood also praised several offensive linemen.

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Additional players receiving praise on offense include fullback Marcus Travis (5-7, 200) of Perry Central, tight ends Spencer Spane of Terry, a transfer from North Carolina A&T, Josh Williams of Jackson Lanier and wide receiver Kendrick May of Tuscaloosa County.

Underwood said the leading returnee on defense is Jorrick Calvin, a 5-10, 185-pound product of Scotlandville High School in Baton Rouge.

"Jorrick did an outstanding job last year. He had five or six interceptions and 30-plus tackles. He is as good a cornerback as we have had here at EC, evidenced by the fact that he is being highly recruited by almost every team in the country."

Returning middle linebacker Jamar Lawrence, a 6-1, 220-pound product of Tuscaloosa County High School, is also expected to have another great year.

Also cited as defensive standouts are sophomores Chris Ivy, a 6-2, 225-pound defensive end from Louisville; Mark Hoskins, a 5-11, 290-pound defensive tackle from Louisville; nose guard Taquan Lowe, a 5-10, 260-pound product of Holt High School in Tuscaloosa, and David Brackett, a 6-1, 190-pound linebacker from Philadelphia.

Underwood also had praise for freshman linebackers Harvey Brown, a 5-9, 235-pound product of Neshoba Central High School, and Brad Ellis, a 5-10, 240-pound former standout at Forest.

He also mentioned freshmen Vonzell Jackson, a 6-3, 235-pound linebacker/defensive end from Aliceville (Ala.) High School; Josh Lewis, a 6-4, 240-pound defensive end from Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County High School; and Henry Scott, a 6-2, 215-pound nose guard from Will Rogers High School in Tulsa, OK, all of whom had a productive preseason camp.

Underwood said he is "very pleased" with the kicking game.

"I am probably more excited about our kicking game than I have been in many years. We have two outstanding kickers and punters in Beau Hannah (6-2, 190) of Morton, a transfer from Mississippi State, and Derek Crenshaw (6-2, 185) of Neshoba Central."

Underwood said Will Butts, a 6-3, 265-pound sophomore from Louisville, will be the long snapper.

"It's been a while (1999) since we advanced to the post-season and our guys have made it clear that we want to play for a championship. This is a good group, and we know that if we make it to the playoffs, we have a chance to possibly win a state title and play in a bowl game," Underwood said.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR √

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

Aug. 27

THE MERIDIAN STAR
Thursday, August 30, 2007

ITY COLLEGE

to go 'old school'

WARRIORS AT A GLANCE

- 2006 record: 2-7
- 2006 finish: Beat Coahoma 20-13 in regular season finale
- Head coach: Terry Underwood (10th year)
- Top returnees: Roosevelt Ross, RB; Matthew Lewis, OL; Katlan French, WR; Michael Townsend, WR; Deon Williams, QB; Travis Robinson, CB; David Brackett, LB; Henry Scott, DT; Ken Whitfield, DE; Chris Ivy, LB

Underwood

2007 schedule

Aug. 30	at East Mississippi
Sept. 6	at Miss. Delta
Sept. 13	Jones County
Sept. 20	at Southwest
Sept. 27	Pearl River
Oct. 4	at Gulf Coast
Oct. 13	Co-Lin
Oct. 18	at Hinds
Oct. 25	Coahoma

2006 results

East Mississippi	24-21
Miss. Delta	10-12
Jones County	7-13
Southwest	15-33
Pearl River	14-31
Gulf Coast	7-38
Co-Lin	10-23
Hinds	8-27
Coahoma	20-13

game for East Central last year.

Other top receivers are sophomores Michael Townsend, a 6-2, 200-pound product of Forest High School, and Katlan French, a 5-9, 175-pound former standout at Starkville Academy.

See **Warriors**
Page 12

Aug. 27

EAST CENTRAL ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Class	34	McKenzie Patrick	DE	FR
1	Travis RObinson	CB	SO	35	David Brackett	LB	SO
2	Ray Frierson	FS	SO	36	Brad Ellis	LB	FR
3	Jarvis WIlson	DB	FR	39	Randy Carter	SS	FR
4	Kendrick May	WR	FR	40	Harvey Brown	LB	FR
5	Freddie Parham	WR	SO	42	Courtney Shelton	FB	FR
6	Vonzell Jackson	LB	FR	43	Josh Lewis	DE	FR
7	Deon Williams	QB	SO	44	Anthony McDonald	LB	FR
8	Michael Townsend	WR	SO	45	Mark Hoskins	LB	SO
9	Jamar Lawrence	LB	SO	47	Byron Rizzi	SS	FR
10	Roosevelt Ross	RB	SO	50	James Jenkins	OG	SO
11	Dameon Brown	CB	SO	51	Will Butts	LS	FR
12	Chris Ivey	DE	SO	52	Quintin Scott	OL	FR
13	Ken Whitfield	DL	SO	53	Terry Sparkman	OT	FR
14	Spencer Spane	TE	SO	54	Quan Lowe	DL	SO
15	Katlan French	WR	SO	60	John Bailey	OT	SO
16	Joshua Williams	TE	FR	64	Marquis Harris	OL	SO
17	Jacob Massey	QB	FR	65	Justin Moore	OL	FR
18	Lamarcus Clayton	TE	SO	66	Robert Gaston	OG	FR
19	Clint Coleman	CB	FR	71	Matthew Lewis	OT	FR
21	Lamario Hopson	RB	SO	73	Zach Harris	OL	SO
22	Maurice Langston	RB	FR	74	Kieandre Jones	OT	FR
23	Lamar Truman	WR	FR	80	Tremayne Bowie	WR	FR
24	Jorrick Calvin	CB	SO	81	Beau Hannah	K/P	FR
25	Fredrick Lyons	CB	SO	83	Derek Crenshaw	K/P	FR
26	Ken Coleman	SS	FR	84	Donovan Tate	WR	FR
30	Bruce Williams	FS	FR	96	Jasen Fairley	DT	FR
32	Marcus Travis	FB	FR	99	Henry Scott	NG	FR

Aug. 27

EAST CENTRAL COMMUN

Underwood, Warriors

By Bubby Johnston
special to The Star

DECATUR — After several years of trying a variation of the "West Coast" offense, East Central Community College head football coach Terry Underwood said it's time for a change — time to return to the "run first" offense the Warriors successfully used in the late 1990s.

Underwood, who begins his 10th year leading the ECCC football program and second stint leading the offense, hopes the "new" offensive attack in 2007 will produce the same results experienced by the 1999 Warriors, who qualified for the state playoffs en route to an 8-3 record.

The first test of the "new offense" takes place against longtime rival East Mississippi Community College tonight Kickoff is set for 6:30 p.m. on the Scooba campus.

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Underwood also has praise for freshman quarterback Jacob Massey of Union.

"Jacob is a really good athlete and has had a great preseason camp. He's been here all summer working out and going to school and his efforts have really paid off. I really feel good about Deon and Jacob running the offense."

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"Roosevelt has a great attitude and we expect him to have another productive season," Underwood stated.

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Parham, a University of Southern Mississippi signee, played in every

WEEK OF Aug. 27

PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

BIG MAN

East Mississippi Community College's LeGarrette Blount tries to evade East Central's Jorrick Calvin and Byron Rizzi during the first quarter of action in Scooba Thursday night.

PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

OPEN AREA

East Central's Deon Williams finds some running room around the end against East Mississippi Thursday night in Scooba.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

Aug. 27

ECCC

From Page B1

and Langston, a product of Northeast Lauderdale, adding 114 yards on 18 carries.

For the homestanding Lions, the loss was not without positive signs, as sophomore quarterback Jare Gault (Spartanburg, S.C) ran the Lion offense efficiently, especially after halftime. On the night, Gault completed 17-of-26 passes for 202 yards and a touchdown.

East Central got on the board first, executing a flawless opening drive to kick off the 2007 season. The Warriors drove 63 yards in 10 plays — all on the ground — to set the tone early. Wide receiver Freddie Parham dashed in from five yards out to give the Warriors a 6-0 lead. A bad snap on the extra point attempt kept the lead at 6-0.

The Lions of Scooba roared back in their first drive, with sophomore James Patterson (Noxubee County) capping a 60-yard scoring drive with a 7-yard dash into the endzone. EMCC freshman kicker Chandler Brooks added the extra point for the 7-6 lead. It would prove to be the Lions' only lead of the night.

After Langston scored his first of two touchdowns on the night with a 15-yard scoring strike to push the lead to 14-7, ECCC took control in the second quarter when quarterback Deon Williams found wideout Michael Townsend from 53 yards out to push the lead to two touchdowns.

"They started stacking eight men in the box, so we had to adjust our offense," Underwood said. "When we did that, our quarterback did an outstanding job of leading this team."

Williams finished the night with seven completions for 138 yards and one touchdown.

Trailing 21-7 at halftime, EMCC fought back, threatening to take the lead in the third.

Sophomore sensation Legarrette Blount, who rushed for 119 yards on 18 carries, scored from a yard out and Gault connected with Patterson for an electrifying 60-yard touchdown to cut the lead to 24-20.

It was as close as EMCC got.

"I thought our defense did an outstanding job of clamping down when we had to," Underwood said. "EMCC did a great job offensively, we just got tough when we had to."

Langston added his second scoring run of the night to push the lead to 31-20 with 10 minutes left.

When ECCC freshman McKenzie Patrick pounced on a Gault fumble in the final 2 minutes, the Warriors could finally celebrate the season-opening victory.

On the night, EMCC managed 337 total yards, with 202 through the air and 135 coming on the ground.

Patterson hauled in eight catches from Gault for 119 yards and a pair of touchdowns.

Freshman kicked Derek Crenshaw added a 22-yard field goal for the Warriors.

EMCC (0-1) will travel to face Southwest next week, while East Central will remain on the road, traveling to take on Miss. Delta Thursday night.

Aug. 27

ECCC 31, EMCC 20

Punishing Warriors grind out victory

By Brandon Walker
assistant sports editor

SCOOBA — Before fall practice started, East Central Community College head football coach Terry Underwood vowed that his Warrior team would hit the field this season with a new — and old — offensive philosophy.

After spreading the field on offense for the past few seasons, Underwood decided that his team would have a renewed dedication to the running game this season.

The Warriors did just that in Thursday night's season opener at East Mississippi Community College, unveiling their new smashmouth-style offense.

The result?

So far, so good.

In Scooba, the Warriors rolled up 409 total yards of offense, including 256 on the ground, to hold on for a 31-20 win over the Lions in the season opener for both teams.

"This is a big win because East Mississippi is a very good team," remarked Underwood. "Both teams played well and it was a hard-fought win for us."

On a soggy Sullivan-Windham Field, ECCC sophomore running backs Roosevelt Ross and Maurice Langston combined to carry the load for the Warriors, with Ross piling up 116 yards on 14 carries

See ECCC
Page B3

WEEK OF Aug. 20

ECCC

From Page 1B

tections blown and missed some assignments. We had some fumbled snaps and dropped some passes and you have to eliminate that kind of stuff if you are going to be successful. We have to be more consistent with our blocking up front. With me and the way we are going to do things this year, it's going to come down to blocking and exectuion. When we did those things well in practice, we had good plays. When we didn't block and execute, we didn't do that well."

Underwood was quick to praise running backs Rosevelt Ross and Maurice Langston along with quarterback Deon Williams and Jacob Massey for their work in the scrimmage.

"We didn't run the option as much because we don't hit the quarterback in practice," Underwood said. "We'll run the option more as the season gooes on. Hopefully, we can work the passing game off of the option. I really think this offense is more suited to the talent that we have here."

On the defensive side of the football, Steve Cheatham is back for his second tour of duty and will serve as the team's defensive coordinator.

"I think we are very athletic on defense," Underwood said. "But we are working hard at stopping the run and trying to get ahead of the chains. We aren't overally big on either side of the football. I think it's any coaches worst nightmare that somebody will line up and try to run over you. There aren't a lot of things you can do to stop that."

After Saturday's scrimmage, the Warriors went to work on their Aug. 30 opponent, rival East Mississippi. Kickoff is slated for 6:30 p.m. at Sullivan-Windham Stadium on the Scooba campus.

"We have nine practices before we play East Mississippi and we started working specifically on them (Monday)," Underwood said. "We started talking about what we are going to run on defense and the things we think we are going to see on both sides of the football. We think we know what to expect but you never know and there will be some things you are in the blind about. But on the other hand, there are some things we will be doing that they will be in the blind about as well."

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

Aug. 20

JUCO FOOTBALL

ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

Former Northeast Lauderdale standout Maurice Langston tries to break away from a trio of defenders in a full-scale, intra-squad scrimmage Saturday morning at Decatur.

East Central sees good and bad in first scrimmage

By Robbie Robertson
The Newton Record

East Central Community College put on its first full-scale scrimmage of the pre-season Saturday morning.

And like most pre-season scrimmages, coach Terry Underwood saw some good and some bad.

"We did some things good and we did some poor things," Underwood said. "But I saw enough good things that we have gotten better. We know that we have two weeks to get ready for the first game and we'll need every one of those and would like more but sooner or later you've got to go out there and play.

"We got accomplished what we wanted. We got to see plenty of our first and second string groups and got some good conditioning. But more importantly, we didn't get anybody hurt."

The biggest change for the Warriors this season will be on the offensive side of the football where Underwood has taken over play-calling duties and gone back to a run-based offense.

"I think we have a lot of room for improvement on offense," Underwood said. "We had some pro-

See **ECCC**, Page 2B

ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

ECCC fullback Marcus Travis runs the football during Saturday's scrimmage in Decatur.

Aug 20

"We have a history of being strong on defense and I expect this could be one of the best defensive teams we've had," Underwood stated. "Our biggest concern is our size, however. We're not overly big but are very athletic, quick and fast."

Underwood said the leading returnee on defense is Jorrick Calvin, a 5-10, 185-pound product of Scotlandville High School in Baton Rouge.

"Jorrick did an outstanding job last year. He had five or six interceptions and 30-plus tackles. He is as good a cornerback as we have had here at EC, evidenced by the fact that he is being highly recruited by almost every team in the country. He is also a great kick and punt returner. We also plan to spot play him on offense."

Returning middle linebacker Jamar Lawrence, a 6-1, 220-pound product of Tuscaloosa County High School, is also expected to have another great ett, a 6-1, 190-pound linebacker from Philadelphia.

"All have had good preseason camps and are tough, hard-nosed players who can run to the ball and provide good leadership," Underwood said.

Underwood also had praise for freshman linebackers Harvey Brown, a 5-9, 235-pound product of Neshoba Central High School, and Brad Ellis, a 5-10, 240-pound former standout at Forest High School.

"These are two of the better inside linebackers that we have signed from our district. Harvey and Brad are very quick and do a great job pursuing the ball," Underwood said.

He also mentioned freshmen Vonzell Jackson, a 6-3, 235-pound linebacker/defensive end from Aliceville (Ala.) High School; Josh Lewis, a 6-4, 240-pound defensive end from Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County High School; and Henry Scott, a 6-2, 215-pound nose guard from about our kicking game than I have been in many years. We have two outstanding kickers and punters in Beau Hannah (6-2, 190) of Morton, a transfer from Mississippi State University, and Derek Crenshaw (6-2, 185) of Neshoba Central," Underwood stated. "Both are kicking the ball well and will probably share kicking and punting duties."

Underwood said Will Butts, a 6-3, 265-pound sophomore from Louisville, will be the long snapper.

"Will is the best long snapper I have ever coached," Underwood stated. "He can snap the ball very fast which is obviously very important in having an effective kicking and punting game."

WEEK OF Aug. 20

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

say it's time for a change

2007-08 ECCC Warriors

also serve as assistant head coach. He spent the past two years as head coach at Neshoba Central High School and served the previous two years as director of football operations at the University of Mississippi.

Underwood said Cheatham "is doing a tremendous job and I'm tickled to have him back on staff."

Cheatham's defensive unit is also receiving praise from the head coach.

year.

"Jamar started every game for us last year and is a solid player. He is also a very good leader," Underwood said.

Also cited as defensive standouts are sophomores Chris Ivy, a 6-2, 225-pound defensive end from Louisville; Mark Hoskins, a 5-11, 290-pound defensive tackle from Louisville; nose guard Taquan Lowe, a 5-10, 260-pound product of Holt High School in Tuscaloosa, and David Brack-

Will Rogers High School in Tulsa, OK, all of whom had a productive preseason camp.

Assisting Cheatham in coaching the defense are Fredrick Lyons (nose guards and defensive tackles), James Miller (linebackers and special teams) and Brian Jones (defensive ends).

KICKING GAME

Underwood said he is "very pleased" with the kicking game.

"I am probably more excited

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UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

Aug. 20

Underwood also has praise for freshman quarterback Jacob Massey of Union.

"Jacob is a really good athlete and has had a great preseason camp. He's been here all summer working out and going to school and his efforts have really paid off. I really feel good about Deon and Jacob running the offense."

Expected to be the "workhorse" in the Warrior backfield is sophomore running back Roosevelt Ross, a 5-8, 190-pound product of Ocala-Forest High School in Ocala, Fla.

"Roosevelt has a great attitude and we expect him to have another productive season," Underwood stated.

Ross will sharing running back duties with Maurice Langston, a red shirt freshman and Northeast Laud-

"All of these guys have had good preseason camps. Kendrick is one of our fastest players and ran a 4.3 in a recent combine. He is going to be a really good player," Underwood stated.

Assisting Underwood with the offense are Kyle Watson (offensive line) and Derrick Qualls (wide receivers and tight ends).

DEFENSE

Steve Cheatham returns as defensive coordinator and will

Aug-20

ECCC Warriors

After several years of trying a variation of the "West Coast" offense, East Central Community College head football coach Terry Underwood said it's time for a change....time to return to the "run first" offense that the Warriors successfully used in the late 1990's, when Underwood first juggled duties as offensive coordinator and head coach.

Underwood, who begins his tenth year leading the ECCC football program and second stint leading the offense, hopes the "new" offensive attack in 2007 will produce the same results experienced by the 1999 Warriors, who qualified for the state playoffs en route to an 8-3 record.

The first test of the "new offense" takes place against longtime rival East Mississippi Community College on Thursday, August 30. Kickoff is set for 6:30 p.m. on the Scooba campus.

"We decided it was time to go back to what we have successfully done in the past - and that's run the ball first, then complement the running game with play action passes and a short passing game," said Underwood, who will also coach quarterbacks and running backs. "We have the skill guys to run the offense –which will also feature a lot of option plays - so this type of offense fits our personnel."

The Warrior offense will be led by first-year quarterback Deon Williams, a transfer from Valdosta (Ga.) State. Underwood said Williams, a former standout at Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County High School, "has a tremendous amount of talent" and "knows what it takes to win."

erdale High School product.

"Maurice is a strong leader and a great talent," Underwood said. "I look for big things from him and Roosevelt this year."

Returning at wide receiver is Freddie Parham, a 5-11, 180-pound product of St. Clair County High School in Odenville, Ala.

Parham, a University of Southern Mississippi signee, played in every game for East Central last year.

"He is a great talent and one of our team leaders," Underwood said of his top receiver.

Other top receivers are sophomores Michael Townsend, a 6-2, 200-pound product of Forest High School, and Katlan French, a 5-9, 175-pound former standout at Starkville Academy.

"Michael is playing as good as I have ever seen him play. Katlan is also having a great camp. Both are very talented."

Underwood also praised several offensive linemen.

"Marquis Harris (6-1, 290) of Meridian is starting at strong guard and James Jenkins (6-2, 245) of Columbus will start at quick guard. Both are really strong players and doing a great job. John Bailey (6-2, 245) of Tuscaloosa has moved to offensive tackle from the fullback and tight end positions and is also having a great preseason camp."

Additional players receiving praise on offense include fullback Marcus Travis (5-7, 200) of Perry Central, tight ends Spencer Spane of Terry, a transfer from North Carolina A&T, Josh Williams of Jackson Lanier, and wide receiver Kendrick May of Tuscaloosa County.

WEEK OF July 23

ECCC

From Page 1B

new year and you never really know what you and everybody else has got until you hit the field."

Three other MACJC teams are in the preseason Top 25. Mississippi Gulf Coast is picked No. 9, while Northwest Mississippi is No. 20 and Copiah-Lincoln Community College is No. 24.

Pearl River, Gulf Coast and Co-Lin are all in the South with East Central. But that's doesn't mean that the long-time coach is throwing in the towel before the season begins.

"We feel like our talent level is much improved," Underwood said. "I don't know if we have as much talent as Pearl River but who really does. As far as those other teams, you really have to wait and see them on the field or on film before you can really determine how the league is going to fall out."

The beautiful thing about Mississippi junior college football is the ability to turn it around in a hurry. Take Co-Lin for instance. The Wolves went from two wins to nine in one season.

"There is always going to be somebody that comes up and surprises everybody else," Underwood said. "I hope that we are that team that surprises everybody. I'm looking forward to the season opener against Scooba. That's a big rivalry game and of Scooba improves as much this year as they did last year, they could be that team that jumps up and surprises everybody. I know they've got an awfully good running back and he'll be hard to handle."

Rounding out the national preseason top five are Snow (Utah) College at No. 2, followed by Blinn (Texas), Butler (Kan.) Community College and Georiga Military College.

Two other Mississippi teams, Jones County Junior College and Itawamba Community College, received votes in the poll.

Eleven MACJC players were named as NJCAA Pre-Season All-Americans, with seven of those landing on the first team.

Making the first team offensive squad are Itawamba quarterback Tyson Lee, East Mississippi Community College running back LeGarrette Blount, Copiah-Lincoln offensive lineman Edward Prince and Pearl River place-kicker Brad Bingham.

First-team defenders are Co-Lin defensive end Raven Gray, Southwest Mississippi linebacker Jeff Martin and Jones County JC defensive back Justin Matthew.

On the second team from Mississippi are Itawamba wide receiver Chris Wilson,

Coahoma defensive end Derrick Chatman, Itawamba linebacker Quinten Pierce and East Mississippi Community College defensive back Derrick Boyd.

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UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

July 23

ECCC has loaded schedule

By Austin Bishop
The Newton Record

Mississippi is annually recognized as having one of the best junior college football leagues in the nation and 2007 will be no different.

Practice

East Central players will report for fall drills on Sunday, Aug. 5 and the first practice will begin on Aug. 7. For the first three days, teams are only allowed to practice once a day. After that East Central will practice twice a day, followed by once a day and then twice a day.

Schedule

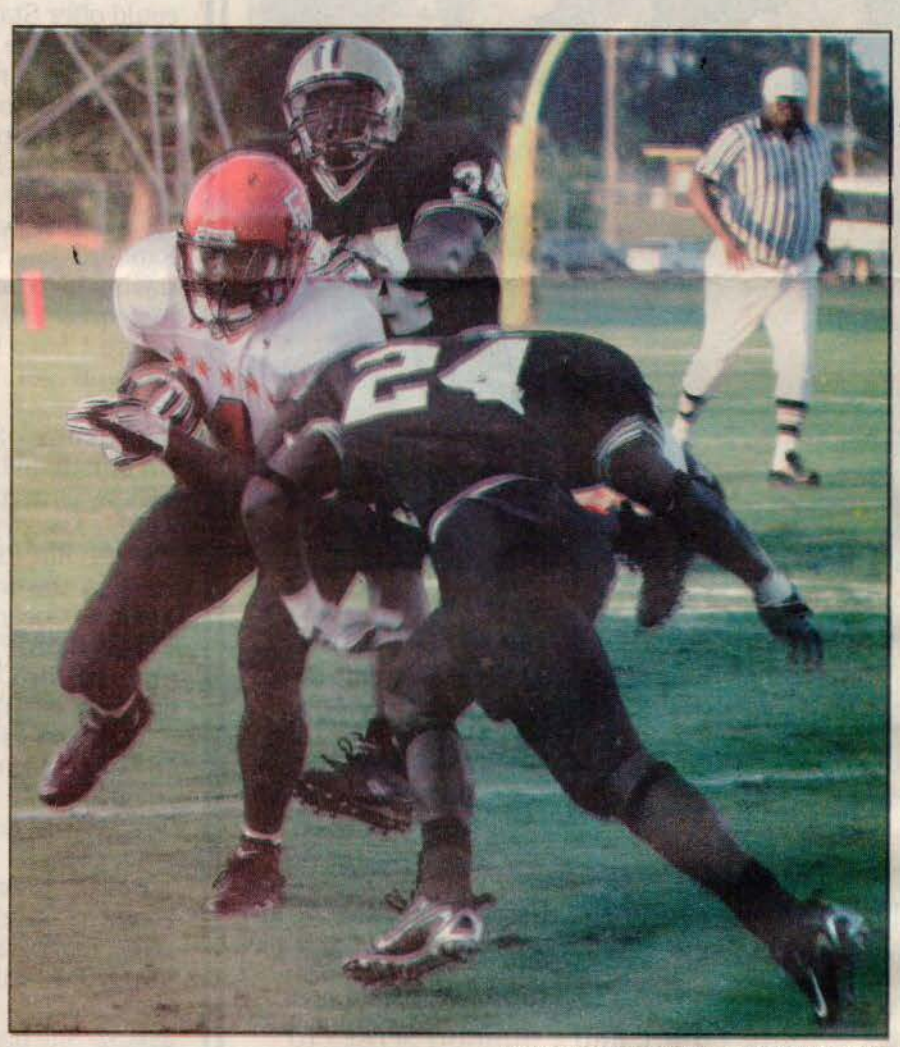
Aug. 30	at EMCC
Sept. 6	at Delta
Sept. 13	JONES
Sept. 20	at Southwest
Sept. 27	PEARL RIVER
Oct. 4	at Gulf Coast
Oct. 13	CO-LIN
Oct. 18	at Hinds
Oct. 25	COAHOMA

For the third consecutive season Pearl River Community College is the preseason No. 1-ranked team in the NJCAA.

The Wildcats, which finished 10-2 last year, losing to Blinn in the national championship game, are expected to be strong again. PRCC is 47-7 in five years under head coach Tim Hatten and has won four consecutive Mississippi Association of Community and Junior College (MACJC) championships.

The Wildcats won the National Championship in 2004, but finished fourth last year after falling to Blinn 19-6 in the Pilgrim's Pride Bowl. Pearl River opens the 2007 season at home against Mississippi Delta on Aug. 30.

"Four ranked teams from Mississippi, that's kind of par for the course," ECCC coach Terry Underwood said. "A lot of that is based on what they did last year. But all of those schools should be strong again this year. But really, a lot of that is based on what they did last year. The great thing about junior college football, every year is a



ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

East Mississippi Community College running back LeGarrette Blount tries to break away from an East Central defender. Blount is considered one of the best returning players in the state this year.

See **ECCC**, Page 2B

WEEK OF April 9/07

ECCC Golfers Finish Fourth In Tourney

FOREST—East Central Community College's golf team finished fourth in an ECCC-hosted tournament held March 24-25 at Forest Country Club.

The Warrior linksters carded a 612 (308-304) score, behind winner Gulf Coast at 579 (285-294); Meridian, 591 (293-294); and Hinds 599 (294-305.)

Rounding out the 10-team field competing in Division II were Northwest, 621 (306-315); Co-Lin, 631 (321-310); Itawamba, 638 (319-319); Holmes, 640 (324-316); East Mississippi, 647 (323-324); and Pearl River, 652 (340-312).

Northeast won top honors in Division III by posting a 623 (315-308) total. Jones finished second at 684 (348-336).

ECCC team members and their respective scores included Alex Deason, 152 (75-77); Paul McMillin, 153 (77-76); ***Jess Dilley of Forest***, 154 (80-74); Tommy Harthcock, 155 (76-79); and Colby Amis, 158 (81-77).

James Moore, golf professional at Forest Country Club, also serves as golf coach at East Central.

Golf Tourney helps Special Olympics

PEARL—Patrick Farms Golf Club will host a golf fundraiser "Fourth Annual Golf Tournament of Heroes."

The tournament is designed to promote Area 8 Special Olympic athletes in Hinds, Madison, Rankin and Scott counties.

The tournament is set for at 1 p.m. April 19, with teams registering for the four-person scramble beginning at 11 a.m.

The cost for a four-person team is $500 and hole sponsorships are available. Teams are encouraged to pre-register, but are welcome the day of the tournament

"In our fourth year of this golf tournament, we continue to give these athletes supportive dollars they need to support their sporting activities with virtually no cost to them," said Debra Waller, Area 8 director for Special Olympics Mississippi.

The funds raised will go to Area 8 Special Olympics Mississippi to help pay for programs that enhance and build self-esteem for mentally-challenged youth and adult participants.

For information, call Waller at (601) 201-2108.

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF April 23/07

ECCC Golf team finishes sixth in tourney

East Central Community College's golf team wrapped up 2007 competition by placing sixth in the MACJC State/Region 23 Tournament held April 16-17 on the Wolf Hollow course at Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Wesson.

The Warrior linksters carded a two-day total of 635 (319-316) in the annual event, won by Meridian Community College's score of 593 (292-301). Also participating were Hinds, 603 (300-303); Gulf Coast, 610 (291-319); Northeast, 633 (317-316); Itawamba, 634 (315-319); Pearl River, 645 (323-322); Holmes, 653 (335-318); Co-Lin, 654 (318-336); East Mississippi, 654 (330-324); Northwest, 658 (329-329); and Jones County, 692 (357-335).

ECCC team members and their respective scores include Paul McMillin of Louisville, 158 (86-72); Alex Deason of Philadelphia, 158 (78-80); Jess Dilley of Forest, 161 (79-82); Colby Amis of Decatur, 165 (83-82); and Tommy Harthcock of Newton, 167 (79-88).

James Moore, golf professional at Forest Country Club, serves as ECCC golf coach.

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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IMPACT _____

WEEK OF 4-30-07

EC golfers place sixth in state, regional tournaments

from school reports

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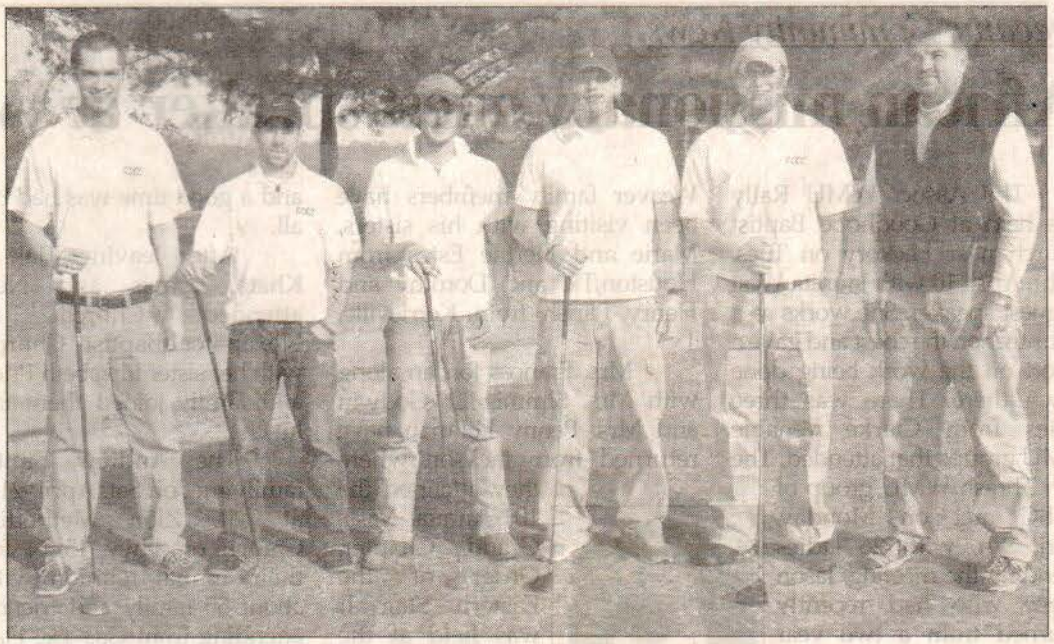

Members of the 2007 East Central Community College golf team are (from left) Tommy Harthcock of Newton, Jess Dilley of Forest, Alex Deason of Philadelphia, Blake Hedrick of Newton, and Paul McMillin of Louisville. Also pictured is coach James Moore, who also serves as golf professional at Forest Country Club. Not pictured are team members Colby Amis of Decatur and Patton Stanley of Waynesboro. *ECCC photo*

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF June 4 2007

ECCC GOLF AWARD WINNERS: Colby Amis (left) of Decatur and Alex Deason of Philadelphia received golf team honors at the annual East Central Community College Spring Sports Banquet held on the Decatur campus. Amis, a product of Newton County High School, received the academic award and Deason, a graduate of Philadelphia High School, was recognized as having the lowest scoring average. Deason also made the All-Tournament Team, which includes the top 10 community and junior college golfers in Division II. ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin and golf coach James Moore presented the awards.

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

ECCC basketball squads

From press reports

After leading his first two Lady Warrior squads to successful seasons and berths in the MACJC and Region 23 Tournaments, head coach Bill Smith is looking forward to another winning campaign.

And for second-year Warrior head coach Maurice Bowie, success will depend on how whether his squad can "close the deal" in the game's final minutes, a trait that was lacking on last year's team.

A first test on how both squads will respond in 2007-08 will be revealed Thursday, November 1, when the Lady Warriors and Warriors are guests of Holmes Community College in Goodman. The Bulldogs captured the 2006 state title en route to a 22-7 mark, and the Lady Bulldogs qualified for the state playoffs, although finishing season action with a 7-17 record. ECCC squads continue competition on the road by taking on East Mississippi Community College Saturday, November 3.

Home action begins Thursday, November 8 against Northeast Mississippi Community College. Tip-off times are 6 and 8 p.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

For Coach Smith, six sophomores return from last year's 16-10 team which was eliminated in first-round action of both post-season tournaments. Of the six returnees, three were starters: Tanesha Brown, a 5-6 guard from Jackson Provine, and Tawayatha Evans, a 5-9 forward and Chotsani Henderson, a 5-4 guard, both of Newton.

Brown averaged 14 points per game and was named last year's most improved player. Evans averaged 5.2 rebounds and Henderson, 3.5 assists.

Smith said he is depending on the sophomore players – who also include Alisa Matlock, a 5-7 forward from Carthage; Jordon Patterson, a 5-6 guard from Oak Hill Academy in Aberdeen; and Carlena Clemmons, a 5-7 forward from Union- "to provide great leadership" for this year's version of Lady Warrior basketball.

Smith said his team's success will also depend on a talented group of freshmen, led by Mystee Dale, a 5-8 forward from Choctaw Central and Rashima Jenkins, 5-9 forward from Airline High School in Bossier City, La.

Dale was an All-State and Dandy Dozen selection and Jenkins made All-District.

Other freshmen include guards Sha Coleman (5-6) of Newton County, Courtney James (5-6) of Magee and Alisha McAfee (5-5) of Northeast Rankin; and forwards Jaleesa Sanders (5-8) of South Leake, Allison Phillips (5-8) of Leake Academy and Michaela Lee (5-11) of Nanih Waiya.

In analyzing this year's squad, Smith said the Lady Warriors "will be a fast-break team that can get up and down the floor. We will not be very big, so we will have to rely on defense and teamwork."

Not only is Smith pleased with his team's talent, but also the team "togetherness."

"So far we have had tremendous camaraderie on our team," he stated. "Everyone really seems to enjoy one another, and has worked hard to form a team chemistry that we need to be successful."

Smith said the goals for this year are the same as in the past.

"As always, we want to make the state and region tournaments and hopefully win them both," Smith said. "If we can get off to a good start and play well early, I think that will go a long way for us to have a good season."

Serving her first year as Smith's assistant is Blessing Chekwa, a former basketball standout at Mississippi State University.

Bowie, whose squad finished a disappointing 7-17, said he is ready to start anew and "get this past year out of our heads."

He noted how tough a season it was last year, when his Warriors had leads in 70 percent of the games that were lost.

But with a new season fast approaching, Bowie said the concentration is on winning, and he said the Warriors are "working hard" to have a good year.

Not only are they working hard, Bowie noted, but this year's squad is also focused on being quality individuals.

"I like the fact that they are good kids that stay out of trouble, both off and on the court, which makes my job both fun and meaningful," Bowie stated. "This is a smart group of kids with a chance to do something with their lives and help their families. I am so glad for them because so many young kids are following the wrong paths."

The top returnees are forwards Marquis Wilson, a 6-7 product of Delhi (La.) High School, and Darron Maxtion, a 6-6 former standout at Sparkman High School in Harvest, Ala.

Wilson averaged 11.5 points, eight rebounds and .7 blocks per game last year and received the hustle award. Maxtion averaged 9.6 points and six rebounds.

"Marquis had a good year last season and we are expecting an even better year this season," Bowie said. "He has a lot of athletic ability as evidenced by the numbers he put up last season."

Bowie said Maxtion "has potential to be one of the best all-around players in the league. He can score and play defense...and if he comes ready to play like I know he can, it will be a good year for him and the Warriors."

Other sophomores include returnees Brandon Shelton, a 6-1 guard from Newton and Craig Pruitt, a 6-4 forward from Newton County, who was named most valuable defensive player, and first-year players Karl Robinson, a 5-9 guard

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WEEK OF Aug. 20

ECCC men's soccer squad

Above are members of the East Central Community College men's soccer team who begin the 2007 season by challenging Itawamba Community College at 5 p.m. Friday, Aug. 24 on the Decatur campus. Soccer Warriors and their respective high schools include, first row, from left, defenders Dwayne Furline of Quitman, Zach Allen of Philadelphia, Kevin Roney of Wayne County and McClain Mullins of Faith Christian in Tupelo; and midfielder Noah Cook, Newton County; second row, from left, Roy Pete, volunteer assistant; midfielders Sam Wilson of Meridian, Sam Lewis of Newton County, Jerrid Hickman of Mendenhall, Joshua Moore of Walker (Ala.) High School and Taylor Booker, Stone High School; forward Patrick Creel, Florence; student assistant Roni Evans of West Lauderdale and head coach Kenneth Thompson; and (top row, from left) goal keepers Kyle Killens of Newton County and Mat Turner, Mendenhall; midfielder/defender Zachary Pillsbury, Newton County; midfielder Jeffery Grimshel, Vicksburg; defender/midfielder Justin Traylor, Florence; student assistant Ruby Crew, Florence; and student trainer Kristina Moore, Enterprise. (EC Photo)

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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OTHER _____

WEEK OF Aug. 20

ECCC soccer coaches

East Central Community College's soccer program is led by Roy Pete, left, and Kenneth Thompson. Pete begins his sixth year as a volunteer coach. Thompson is in his ninth year leading the Soccer Warriors and third season as head coach of the women's team. Both squads begin season action by challenging Itawamba Community College on Friday, Aug. 24. Game times are 3 and 5 p.m. on the Decatur campus. (EC Photo)

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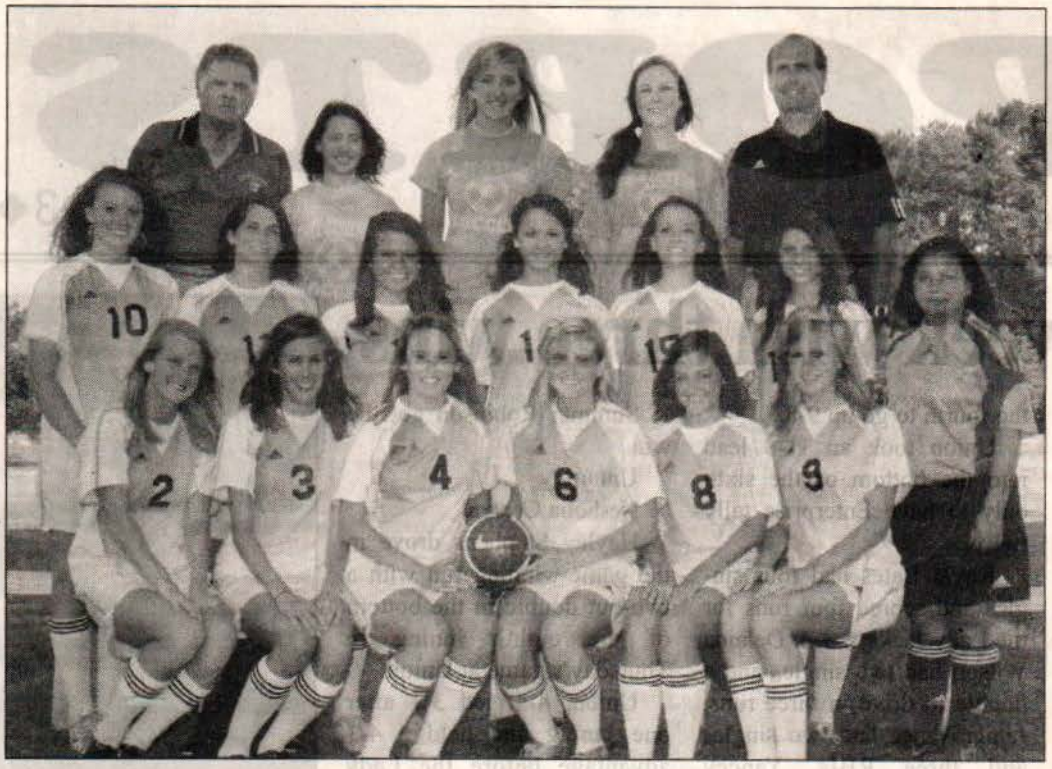
OTHER _____

WEEK OF Aug. 20

The Union Appeal • Union, Mississippi • Wednesday, Aug



ECCC Women's Soccer Team

Ready to begin the 2007 campaign are the above members of the East Central Community College women's soccer team who include (first row, from left) forward Kacy Covert, West Lauderdale; defender Chelsey Vincent, Newton County; forward Brooke White, Florence; forward/midfielder Megan Munn and midfielder Jana Johnson, both of Newton County; and midfielder Kenzie Gaines, Neshoba Central; (second row) midfielder Skye Tindall, Newton County Academy; midfielder/forward Megan Klauck, Neshoba Central; defender Sidney Gutierrez and midfielder/defender Kristen Pillsbury, both of Newton County; defenders Belinda Woodall and Kimbo Seale, both of Clarkdale; and goal keeper/forward Catalina Tarazona, Florence; and (top row) Roy Pete, volunteer assistant coach; student trainer Kristina Moore, Enterprise; student assistants Roni Evans of West Lauderdale and Ruby Crew of Florence; and head coach Kenneth Thompson. Not pictured is goal keeper Kaley Ball of Laurel. The Lady Soccer Warriors begin season action by hosting Itawamba Community College at 3 p.m. on Friday.

ECCC photo

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF Dec. 10

Above are recipients of men's soccer awards presented at the annual East Central Community College Fall Sports Banquet. Seated from left are Noah Cook, academic award; Justin Traylor, hustle award; and Sam Wilson, most valuable, best offensive player, and all-state. Standing are Josh Moore, team captain and Warrior Award; Sam Lewis, most improved; and Jarred Hickman, best defensive player. Kenneth Thompson serves as head coach.

EC photo

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL √

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

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IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Dec. 10

These members of the East Central Community College women's soccer team received various honors at the annual Fall Sports Banquet. Seated from left are Jana Johnson, Academic and Warrior awards; Skye Tindall, hustle award; and Megan Munn, best offensive player and all-state. Standing are Brooke White, most valuable player, team captain and All-Region 23; and Kimbo Seale, best defensive player. Not pictured are Meagan Klauck, most improved, and Kaley Ball, honorable mention all-state. Kenneth Thompson serves as head coach.

EC photo

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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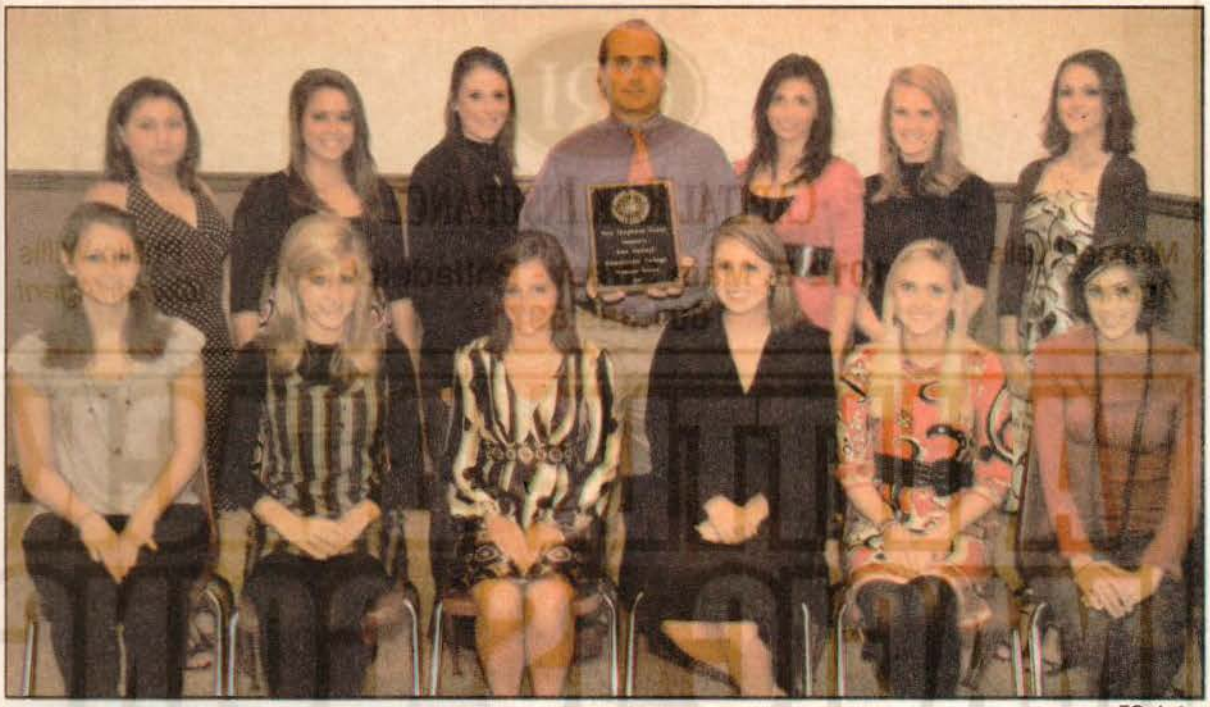
WEEK OF Dec. 17



EC photo

Receive sportsmanship award

The East Central Community College Lady Soccer Warriors were named this year's recipient of the MACJC Tom Shepherd Sportsmanship Award, presented to the women and men's soccer teams with the fewest number of cards (fouls) assessed during season competition. The ECCC women received just one yellow card for the 2007 campaign. Head coach Kenneth Thompson is shown displaying the award. Team members and their respective high schools include, seated, from left, Kristen Pillsbury, Newton County; Kenzie Gaines, Neshoba Central; Jana Johnson, Newton County: Skye Tindall, Newton County Academy; and Megan Munn and Chelsey Vincent, both of Newton County. Standing, from left, are, Catalina Tarazona, Florence; Sidney Gutierrez, Newton County: Brooke White, Florence; Coach Thompson; Kimbo Seale, Clarkdale; Kacy Covert, West Lauderdale; and Belinda Woodall, Clarkdale. Team members not pictured are Megan Klauck of Neshoba Central, Allison Leach of Union and Kaley Ball of Laurel.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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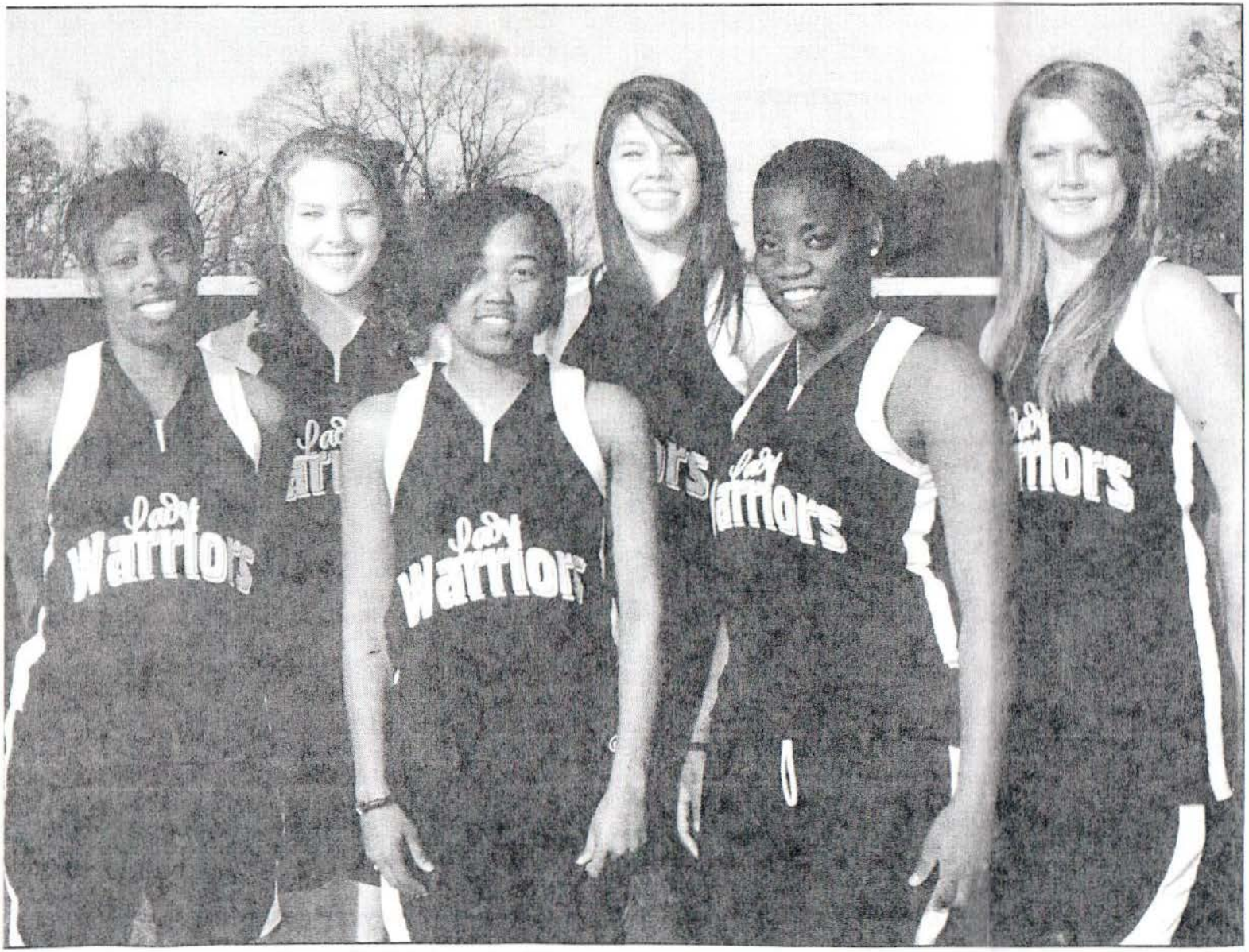
WEEK OF Feb. 5/07



Neshoba County's ECCC Lady Warriors

(EC Photo)

Members of the 2007 East Central Community College fast-pitch softball team from Neshoba County are (from left) outfielder Sondreia Hillie, Neshoba Central; infielder/outfielder Candace Griffin and infielder Shenique Brass, both of Philadelphia; and outfielder/pitcher Whitnee White, infielder Laura Smith and pitcher/outfielder Kady Chandler, all of Neshoba Central. The Lady Diamond Warriors are led by fourth-year head coach Scott Hill. Season action gets underway at 3 p.m. Tuesday, February 13 against visiting Pearl River Community College.

CLARION-LEDGER ____

IMPACT ____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ____

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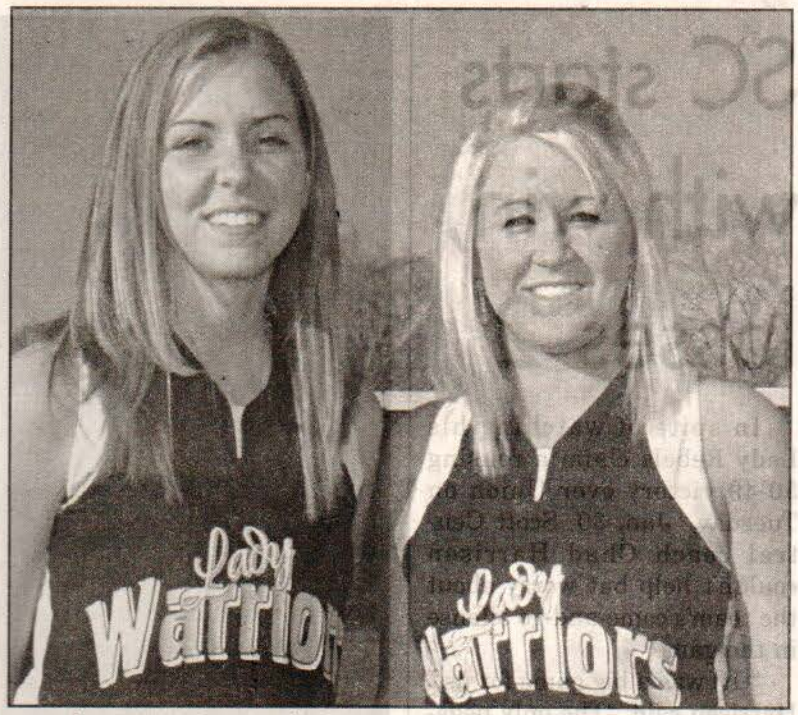
WEEK OF Feb 5/07



Lady Diamond Warriors

The East Central Lady Warrior softball team featuring Amanda Schmidt, left, and Jessica Shannon, both alumnus of Carthage High School, will open the 2007 season on Tuesday, Feb. 13, at home against Pearl River Community College. Action is scheduled to begin at 3 p.m.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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WEEK OF Feb. 12/07

East Central hopes to continue softball success

from school, staff reports

With only one starter returning from last year's championship squad that also set a school record for team wins, fourth-year head coach Scott Hill said a return to postseason play will depend on how quickly this year's version of his East Central Community College fast-pitch softball can come together as a team.

If the past is an indicator for success, the Lady Diamond Warriors will be celebrating a fourth-straight winning campaign in 2007. Their quest for another championship season begins today against Pearl River, with doubleheader action set for 3 p.m. in Decatur.

Outfielder Loren Kennedy of Union is the lone starter from the 2006 squad, which captured a second-straight MACJC Central Division title while also posting a record of 41-6. In addition to Kennedy — who was a second team, All-Central Division selection last year — other returnees who saw significant playing time include Infielder Amanda Schmidt of Carthage and catcher Tiffany Thomas of Union.

Other returnees include outfielder Jessica Shannon of Carthage, infielder/outfielder Candace Griffin of Philadelphia and catcher/infielder Kayla Mullinax of Stringer.

Freshman team members are outfielders Sondreia Hillie of Neshoba Central and Andie Easom of Sebastopol; infielder/pitcher Chasity Yates of Union; outfielders/pitchers Lindsey Stevens and Lindsey Little, both of Newton County; outfielders/pitchers Whitnee White of Neshoba Central and Kimbo Seale of Clarkdale; pitcher/outfielder Kady Chandler of Neshoba Central; and infielders Shenique Brass of Philadelphia and Laura Smith of Neshoba Central.

Hillie was The Meridian Star's 2006 All-Area Player of the Year, while Chandler was selected an all-state selection sat out last season. Both were integral parts of Neshoba's last two Class 4A fast-pitch state championships.

"This team should possess speed throughout the line-up. Hopefully this will allow us to be aggressive enough to make some things happen and put up sufficient offensive numbers," Hill said.

Serving as Hill's assistants are former Lady Diamond Warriors Jennifer Smith and Dominique Mapp, who were standouts on the 2005 and 2006 ECCC squads.

JUCO SOFTBALL

Season-openers for the area's junior college softball teams:

- East Central: Today vs. Pearl River
- Meridian: Feb. 18 at Bishop State
- East Mississippi: Feb. 20 vs. Copiah-Lincoln

• ECCC Schedule, page B2.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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Members of the 2007 East Central Community College fastpitch softball team from Newton County are, from left, outfielders/pitchers Lindsey Little and Lindsey Stevens, both of Newton County High School, and outfielder Loren Kennedy, infielder/pitcher Chasity Yates, and catcher Tiffany Thomas, all of Union. The Lady Diamond Warriors are led by fourth-year head coach Scott Hill. *(EC Photo)*

ECCC looks for another good year

from school reports

With only one starter returning from last year's championship squad that also set a school record for wins, fourth-year head coach Scott Hill said a return to post-season play will depend on how quickly this year's version of East Central Community College fastpitch softball can come together as a team.

But if the past is an indicator for success, the Lady Diamond Warriors will be celebrating a fourth-straight winning campaign in 2007.

Outfielder Loren Kennedy of Union is the lone starter from the 2006 squad, which captured a second-straight MACJC Central Division title while also posting a record 41 victories against just six defeats.

In addition to Kennedy — who was a second team, All-Central Division selection last year — other returnees who saw significant playing time include infielder Amanda Schmidt of Carthage and catcher Tiffany Thomas of Union. All three experienced stellar careers at their respective high schools.

Kennedy received All-State and All-District recognition and twice received team MVP honors in addition to being named best offensive player and receiving the Yellowjacket Award.

Schmidt was named All-District and received team MVP, best offensive player and best infielder awards.

Thomas was a three-time All-State selection and was presented her team's best defensive player and best offensive player awards.

Other returnees include outfielder Jessica Shannon of Carthage, infielder/outfielder Candace Griffin of Philadelphia and catcher/infielder Kayla Mullinax of Stringer. Shannon received All-District honors at CHS.

Freshman team members are outfielders Sondreia Hillie of Neshoba Central and Andie Easom of Sebastopol; infielder/pitcher Chasity Yates of Union; outfielders/pitchers Lindsey Stevens and Lindsey Little, both of Newton County; outfielders/pitchers Whitnee White of Neshoba Central and Kimbo Seale of Clarkdale; pitcher/outfielder Kady Chandler of Neshoba Central; and infielders Shenique Brass of Philadelphia and Laura Smith of Neshoba Central.

Hillie received All-State, All-District and All-Star honors and was the recipient of Lady Rocket best defensive player and hustle awards.

Easom was selected All-District and received her team's hustle and best offensive player awards.

Yates, a six-year letter-winner, was an All-Star and team MVP award winner.

Stevens received All-State and All-Star recognition and was presented her team's captain and pitching awards.

Little earned a pitching award as a member of the Lady Cougar squad.

White received All-State, team MVP and hustle awards.

Seale was named to All-State and All-Star squads and received her team's captain and RBI awards.

Chandler was selected All-State, All-District and All-Star and received team MVP and hustle awards.

Smith was also an All-State and All-Star selection and was named Neshoba Central's most outstanding student athlete and received her team's most offensive player award.

"This team should possess speed throughout the line-up," Hill said. "Hopefully, this will allow us to be aggressive enough to make some

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EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Lady Diamond Warriors and their respective high schools include (seated from left) outfielder Sondreia Hillie, Neshoba Central; outfielder/pitcher Lindsey Stevens, Newton County; catcher/infielder Kayla Mullinax, Stringer; outfielder Loren Kennedy, Union; outfielder Jessica Shannon, Carthage; infielder/outfielder Candace Griffin, Philadelphia; outfielder Andie Easom, Sebastopol; and infielder/pitcher Chasity Yates, Union; (kneeling from left) outfielder/pitcher Lindsey Little, Newton County; outfielder/pitcher Whitnee White and infielder Laura Smith, both of Philadelphia; pitcher/outfielder Kady Chandler, Neshoba Central; catcher Tiffany Thomas, Union; infielder Amanda Schmidt, Carthage; outfielder/pitcher Kimbo Seale, Clarkdale; infielder Shenique Brass, Philadelphia; and (standing from left) assistant coach Dominique Mapp; managers Brooke Harrell, Morton; Michael Gregory, Louisville; Morgan Bryars, Hickory; Mike Pientowski, Newton; Jafreeia Malone, Philadelphia; assistant coach Jennifer Smith and head coach Scott Hill.

ECCC

From Page 20

Hillie received All-State, All-District and All-Star honors and was the recipient of Lady Rocket best defensive player and hustle awards. Easom was selected All-District and received her team's hustle and best offensive player awards. Yates, a six-year letter-winner, was an All-Star and team MVP award winner. Stevens received All-State and All-Star recognition and was presented her team's captain and pitching awards. Little earned a pitching award as a member of the Lady Cougar squad. White received All-State, team MVP and hustle awards. Seale was named to All-State and All-Star squads and received her team's captain and RBI awards. Chandler was selected All-State, All-District and All-Star and received team MVP and hustle awards. Smith was also an All-State and All-Star selection and was named Neshoba Central's most outstanding student athlete and received her team's most offensive player award.

Regarding his thoughts on the 2007 squad, Hill stated: "This team should possess speed throughout the line-up. Hopefully this will allow us to be aggressive enough to make some things happen and put up sufficient offensive numbers."

He also expects his Lady Diamond Warriors to "play hard" and provide "plenty of excitement" for fans.

And, as expected, Hill hopes that his team will again meet its two main goals: (1) Have a winning season; and (2) Make the playoffs – just as they have the past three seasons.

Serving as Hill's assistants are former Lady Diamond Warriors Jennifer Smith and Dominique Mapp, who were standouts on the 2006 and 2005 squads. Both are also products of Newton County High School.

Smith serves as first-base coach and will help position the defense during games. She was an All-Region, All-State and All-Central Division selection at EC and received most valuable player and team captain awards. She had a career batting average of .405. She also hit three home runs and collected 48 RBIs.

Mapp's area of responsibility will be working with infielders and hitters. She also received All-Region, All-State and All-Central Division honors and was chosen most valuable defensive player and received a team captain award. She posted a career batting average of .370 at EC highlighted by 16 doubles and 51 RBIs.

Serving as managers are Alex Deason and Jafreeia Malone, both of Philadelphia; Brooke Harrell of Morton; Michael Gregory of Louisville; Mike Pientowski of Newton; and Morgan Bryars of Hickory.

ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

Second baseman Abby Miller is one of eight starters that East Central will have to replace in the upcoming season.

Starting from scratch

Lady Warriors return only one starter from record-setting team

With only one starter returning from last year's championship squad that also set a record for team wins, fourth-year head coach Scott Hill said a return to post-season play will depend on how quickly this year's version of East Central Community College fast-pitch softball can come together as a team.

But if the past is an indicator for success, the Lady Diamond Warriors will be celebrating a fourth-straight winning campaign in 2007.

Outfielder Loren Kennedy of Union is the lone starter from the 2006 squad, which captured a second-straight MACJC Central Division title while also posting a record 41 victories against just six defeats.

In addition to Kennedy –who was a second team, All-Central Division selection last year- other returnees who saw significant playing time include infielder Amanda Schmidt of Carthage and catcher Tiffany Thomas of Union. All three players experienced stellar careers at their respective high schools.

Kennedy received All-State and All-District recognition and twice received team MPV honors in addition to being named best offensive player and receiving the Yellow Jacket Award. Schmidt was named All-District and received team MVP, best offensive player and best infielder awards. Thomas was a three-time All-State selection and was preser. ed her team's best defensive player and best offensive player awards.

Other returnees include outfielder Jessica Shannon of Carthage, infielder/outfielder Candace Griffin of Philadelphia and catcher/infielder Kayla Mullinax of Stringer. Shannon received All-District honors at CHS, where she was also named best outfielder and best offensive player.

Freshman team members are outfielders Sondreia Hillie of Neshoba Central and Andie Easom of Sebastopol; infielder/pitcher Chasity Yates of Union; outfielders/pitchers Lindsey Stevens and Lindsey Little, both of Newton County; outfielders/pitchers Whitnee White of Neshoba Central and Kimbo Seale of Clarkdale; pitcher/outfielder Kady Chandler of Neshoba Central; and infielders Shenique Brass of Philadelphia and Laura Smith of Neshoba Central.

See **ECCC**, Page 28

WEEK OF Feb. 19/07

EC splits with Pearl River in fast-pitch

Special to The Record

East Central Community College's Lady Diamond Warriors split a doubleheader with visiting Pearl River Community College Tuesday in the season-opener for both squads.

The Lady Wildcats won the first contest by a 4-2 margin but the EC women rallied to take the nightcap by a 5-4 decision.

Kimbo Seale, a freshman hurler from Clarkdale, took the loss in game one.

EC hitters were Shenique Brass of Philadelphia and Loren Kennedy of Union, two singles each; and Jessica Shannon of Carthage and Tiffany Thomas of Union, singles each.

The Lady Warriors jumped out to a 3-0 lead early in the nightcap and held on to gain the split and the team's first victory of 2007 under fourth-year head coach Scott Hill.

Kady Chandler, a freshman from Neshoba Central, went the distance for EC and picked up the win.

Kennedy led East Central's offensive attack with three singles and one RBI. Laura Smith of Neshoba Central doubled and singled, and singles were recorded by Seale and Sondreia Hillie of Neshoba Central.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NEWTON RECORD ✓

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WEEK OF Feb. 19/07

JUCO SOFTBALL

Jones	**8-2**
East Central	**7-6**

The Lady Warriors picked up a split against Jones County Junior College Tuesday.

EC fell 8-7 in extra innings in Game 1 before coming back to take a 6-2 win in the second game.

In the opener, Kady Chandler was the losing pitcher after coming on in relief of starter Kimbo Seale. Sondreia Hillia had a home run, a double and a single while Seale had two hits for the Lady Warriors.

ECCC rebounded from its tough loss in the opener, as Chandler had a strong performance in the circle. Chandler went the distance, allowing only one earned run and striking out three batters.

Shenique Brass and Laura Smith each had three hits for the Lady Warriors while Candace Griffin had two hits for ECCC.

The Lady Warriors, now 2-4, will host Gulf Coast Thursday.

— Jeff Edwards

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Feb. 26/07

JUCO SOFTBALL

Jones **5-4**
East Central **4-2**

The Lady Warriors dropped a pair of tight ones at home, falling to Jones County Junior College 5-4 and 4-2.

East Central, which fell to 2-8 overall, goes to Southwest Mississippi Thursday for two more games.

In the opener, ECCC lost by a run despite being out-hit 11-6. Shenique Brass had a single, double and four RBIs, Sondreia Hillie had a triple and Laura Smith a double.

Kimbo Seale went the distance on the hill, giving up four earned runs in the loss.

In the second game, Kady Chandler also gave up four earned runs, striking out six in the loss.

Brass had two singles, a double and an RBI and Amanda Schmidt contributed two singles.

— *Rocky Higginbotham*

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____
UNION APPEAL _____
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____
SPIRIT OF MORTON _____
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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____
NEWTON RECORD _____
MERIDIAN STAR ✓
CLARION-LEDGER _____
IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Feb. 26/07

East Central softball team drops pair

A perfect day for softball resulted in anything but for the East Central Community College Lady Warriors who were swept by Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Thursday afternoon in doubleheader action held on the Decatur campus.

The Lady Diamond Bulldogs took advantage of four EC errors en route to an 11-0 shut out in the first game, and the visitors rallied for a 5-2 decision in the second contest.

EC managed only three hits in the opener- singles each by Whitnee White of Neshoba Central, Shenique Brass of Philadelphia and Kayla Mullinax of Stringer.

Lindsey Little, a product of Newton County High School, took the loss as she allowed seven runs on six hits through three-and-a-third innings. Kimbo Seale of Clarkdale completed the contest on the mound, allowing four runs on six hits.

Gulf Coast, which collected 12 hits, scored one run in the second, six in the fourth and four in the fifth to claim the shut out.

In the second contest, the Lady Diamond Warriors carried a 2-1 advantage into the seventh inning, when the visitors tallied four wins and held on for the victory.

White homered and singled to lead the EC offensive attack. Brass and Tiffany Thomas of Union had singles each. Thomas also collected an RBI.

Kady Chandler of Neshoba Central went the distance in the losing effort, allowing five runs on six hits. She also fanned three batters and walked one.

Next up for the Lady Diamond Warriors, who sport a 2-6 mark under fourth-year head coach Scott Hill, is a doubleheader with visiting Jones County Junior College on Tuesday, Feb. 27.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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IMPACT _____

Lady Diamond Warriors Looking For Repeat

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES
ECCC PUBLIC RELATIONS

DECATUR—With only one starter returning from last year's championship squad that also set a record for team wins, fourth-year head coach Scott Hill said a return to post-season play will depend on how quickly this year's version of East Central Community College fast-pitch softball can come together as a team.

But if the past is an indicator for success, the Lady Diamond Warriors will be celebrating a fourth-straight winning campaign in 2007.

"This team should possess speed throughout the line-up. Hopefully this will allow us to be aggressive enough to make some things happen and put up sufficient offensive numbers," Hill said.

He also expects his Lady Diamond Warriors to "play hard" and provide "plenty of excitement" for fans.

And, as expected, Hill hopes that his team will again meet its two main goals:

- Have a winning season.
- Make the playoffs – just as they have the past three seasons.

Their quest for another championship season began Feb. 13 against Pearl River Community College.

Outfielder Loren Kennedy of Union is the lone starter from the 2006 squad, which captured a second-straight MACJC Central Division title while also posting a record 41 victories against just six defeats.

In addition to Kennedy –who was a second team, All-Central Division selection last year- other returnees who saw significant playing time include infielder Amanda Schmidt of Carthage and catcher Tiffany Thomas of Union.

All three players experienced stellar careers at their respective high schools.

Kennedy received All-State and All-District recognition and twice received team MPV honors in addition to being named best offensive player and receiving the Yellow Jacket Award. Schmidt was named All-District and received team MVP, best offensive player and best infielder awards.

Thomas was a three-time All-State selection and was presented her team's best defensive player and best offensive player awards.

Other returnees include outfielder Jessica Shannon of Carthage, infielder/outfielder Candace Griffin of Philadelphia and catcher/infielder Kayla Mullinax of Stringer. Shannon received All-District honors at CHS, where she was also named best outfielder and best offensive player.

ECCC PHOTO

Andie Easom of Sebastopol is a member of the 2007 fast-pitch softball team at East Central Community College in Decatur. Easom is a freshman outfielder for the Lady Diamond Warriors, who are led by fourth-year head coach Scott Hill.

Freshman team members are outfielders Sondreia Hillie of Neshoba Central and ***Andie Easom of Sebastopol***; infielder/pitcher Chasity Yates of Union; outfielders/pitchers Lindsey Stevens and Lindsey Little, both of Newton County; outfielders/pitchers Whitnee White of Neshoba Central and Kimbo Seale of Clarkdale; pitcher/outfielder Kady Chandler of Neshoba Central; and infielders Shenique Brass of Philadelphia and Laura Smith of Neshoba Central.

Hillie received All-State, All-District and All-Star honors and was the recipient of Lady Rocket best defensive player and hustle awards.

Easom was selected All-District and received her team's hustle and best offensive player awards. Yates, a six-year letter-winner, was an All-Star and team MVP award winner.

Little earned a pitching award as a member of the Lady Cougar squad. White received All-State, team MVP and hustle awards. Seale was named to All-State and All-Star squads and received her team's captain and RBI awards.

Chandler was selected All-State, All-District and All-Star and received team MVP and hustle awards. Smith was also an All-State and All-Star selection.

Serving as Hill's assistants are former Lady Diamond Warriors Jennifer Smith and Dominique Mapp.

Serving as managers are Alex Deason and Jafreeia Malone; ***Brooke Harrell of Morton***; Michael Gregory, Mike Pientowski, and Morgan Bryars.

WEEK OF March 5/07

JUCO SOFTBALL

ECCC 9-13
Miss. Delta 1-1

The Lady Warriors swept a pair from the Lady Trojans, winning 9-1 in the opener and 13-1 in the nightcap to improve to 7-9 on the season.

In the first game, Kady Chandler got the win by striking out seven in five innings of work. She allowed six hits and one earned run.

Sondreia Hillie had a three-run homer, a double and six RBIs to lead ECCC, while Loren Kennedy had three singles. Shenique Brass had a single and a double and Lindsey Stevens also had a double.

In the second game, ECCC had 14 hits — with Brass getting a double, two singles and three RBIs. Candace Griffin added a pair of doubles and two RBIs.

Chandler was again the winning pitcher, giving up four hits and one run in four innings.

ECCC begins play today in the Pearl River Tournament in Hattiesburg.

— Rocky Higginbotham

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NEWTON RECORD _____

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WEEK OF March 5/07

JUCO SOFTBALL

East Central 8
Southwest 3

The East Central Lady Warriors improved their record to 8-9 with a win over Southwest Mississippi in the Pearl River Invitational Friday.

ECCC banged out 10 hits and rode the arm of Kimbo Seale, who improved her pitching record to 2-3 with the win.

Shenique Brass, Loren Kennedy and Amanda Schmidt all had two RBIs apiece for the Lady Warriors while Whitnee White had three hits and Jessica Shannon had two hits for East Central.

— Jeff Edwards

Gulf Coast 8
East Central 4

The Lady Warriors fell in the second game of the day at the Pearl River Invitational to drop their record to 8-10 on the season.

Lindsey Little picked up the loss for ECCC, allowing five runs on five hits in three innings. Only two of the runs were earned as the Lady Warriors made four errors.

Sondrea Hillie led the way at the plate with two singles and an RBI while Whitnee White had a single and three RBIs.

— Jeff Edwards

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

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MERIDIAN STAR √

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF March 5/07

Lady Warriors sweep ICC

from school reports

East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball team snapped a four-game losing skid by sweeping a pair of contests from Itawamba Community College Friday afternoon on the Decatur campus.

The Lady Diamond Warriors won the opener by a 10-8 margin and recorded a 6-3 victory in the second game to complete the sweep.

The Lady Diamond Warriors, who improved to 4-8 under fourth-year head coach Scott Hill, will be participating in the Pearl River Tournament on Friday and Saturday.

Shenique Brass homered and doubled to lead EC's 17-hit attack in the first contest. Also recording multiple base hits were Sondreia Hillie, two doubles; and Kayla Mullinax and Whitnee White, one double each.

EC scored three runs in the first, two in the fifth, and five in the sixth.

The Lady Indians — who collected eight hits — tallied two runs in the second inning, four in the fourth, and two in the seventh.

Kimbo Seale was the winning pitcher.

In the second game, Brass doubled to lead EC's nine-hit attack.

The Lady Diamond Warriors scored one run in the first inning, two in the third, two in the fourth, and added a run in the fifth to claim the victory.

Itawamba scored one run in the fifth and two in the sixth. The Lady Indians managed just five hits.

Kady Chandler picked up the win for EC.

Jones	5-4
ECCC	4-2

EC dropped a doubleheader to Jones on Feb. 27.

Shenique Brass homered, doubled, and collected four RBIs to lead EC hitters in the first contest. Laura Smith also doubled.

Kimbo Seale took the loss for EC on the mound, as she went the distance and allowed five runs on 11 hits. She also walked two batters.

In the second game, Brass had a double, two singles, and an RBI to lead EC at the plate. Amanda Schmidt and Tiffany Thomas had two singles apiece. Schmidt also scored a run.

EC tallied one run in the first inning and another in the seventh, while Jones scored two runs in the first and two in the fifth to claim the victory.

Kady Chandler was the losing pitcher, allowing four runs on nine hits in the seven-inning contest. She also fanned six batters and walked one.

EC Spring Game today

An intra-squad scrimmage scheduled at 3:30 p.m. today will wrap up spring workouts for East Central Community College's football team, announced head coach Terry Underwood.

Underwood said approximately 45 players came out for spring practice, which began on February 5.

Among the 45 competing for spots on the team are 17 mid-year transfers.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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WEEK OF March 12/07

Lady Warriors sweep Miss. Delta in fast-pitch

The "bats" came alive for the East Central Community College fast-pitch softball team which pounded Mississippi Delta Community College 9-1 and 13-1 in doubleheader action held Thursday on the Moorhead campus.

The Lady Diamond Warriors, who improved to 7-9 under fourth-year head coach Scott Hill following the sweep, registered 11 hits in the opener and collected 15 hits in the second contest.

Leading the EC offense in the 9-1 victory were Sondreia Hillie of Neshoba Central, home run, double and six RBIs; Loren Kennedy of Union, three singles; Shenique Brass and Candace Griffin, both of Philadelphia, double and single each; Lindsey Stevens of Newton County, double; and Whitnee White of Neshoba Central, single. Brass, Griffin and White also collected an RBI each.

Kady Chandler of Neshoba Central was the winning pitcher, as she allowed one run on six hits through five innings of work. She fanned seven batters and walked four. Stevens hurled two-thirds of an inning and Schmidt, one-third. Neither allowed a hit.

In the second contest, Brass led the offense with a double, two singles and three RBIs. Other sluggers were Griffin, double and single; Schmidt, two singles; Hillie, two singles and one RBI; Kayla Mullinax of Stringer, two singles; Jessica Shannon of Carthage, two singles and one RBI; and Lindsey Little of Newton County and Kimbo Seale of Clarkdale, singles each.

Chandler picked up the win for EC, as she allowed no runs on two hits through three-and-two thirds innings. She fanned two batters and walked three. Stevens pitched one inning, allowing one run on two hits, and Mullinax was on the mound for one-third of an inning.

EC-Gulf Coast

The Lady Diamond Warriors split a doubleheader with Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College in Perkinston on March 5.

EC fell 6-0 in the opener and rallied for a 12-8 decision to earn the split.

Only three Lady Diamond Warriors managed hits against Gulf Coast in the shut out, as Kennedy, Schmidt and White recorded singles each.

In the second contest, EC rallied from a 3-0 deficit in grand style by exploding for 10 runs in the fourth inning and held on to gain the split.

The EC offense accounted for 12 hits in the victory, with four Lady Diamond Warriors blasting home runs.

Smith led EC at the plate with a home run, two singles and two RBIs. Other top sluggers were Hillie, home run, single and four RBIs; and Brass and Griffin, who each homered, singled and collected two RBIs. Kennedy, Schmidt and Tiffany Thomas of Union added singles each.

Chandler picked up the win as she allowed eight runs on 13 hits.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF March 19/07

Lady Warriors go 1-3 in fast-pitch

An 8-3 win over Southwest Mississippi Community College in first-round action of the Pearl River Community College Tournament was the highlight for the East Central Community College fast-pitch softball team which later fell to Gulf Coast (8-4), Faulkner State (6-2) and the host Lady Diamond Wildcats (7-2) in the March 9-10 event.

Whitnee White of Neshoba Central led the EC offense in its victory over the Lady Diamond Bears with three singles and an RBI. Other sluggers included Jessica Shannon of Carthage, two singles; Sondreia Hillie of Neshoba Central, triple; and Loren Kennedy of Union. Amanda Schmidt of Carthage, Shenique Brass of Philadelphia, and Laura Smith of Neshoba Central, singles each. Kennedy, Schmidt and Brass also collected two RBIs apiece, and White and Smith knocked in a run each.

Runs were scored by White (2), Shannon (2), Kennedy, Schmidt, Brass and Candace Griffin of Philadelphia.

EC scored two runs in the second inning, one in the third and five in the fourth in posting the easy victory. Southwest tallied its runs in the second, third and fourth innings.

Kimbo Seale of Clarkdale was the winning pitcher, allowing two runs on five hits through three innings. She fanned two batters and walked two. Lindsey Little of Newton County hurled one inning in relief and gave up one run on one hit.

Against Gulf Coast, EC managed just five hits – two singles by Hillie and singles each from Kennedy, White and Shannon. Runs were scored by Hillie (2), Kenney and Schmidt.

The Lady Diamond Warriors scored one run in the first inning and three runs in the third. Gulf Coast tallied three runs in the second inning, two in the third, one in the fourth and two in the fifth.

Little took the loss for EC. She allowed five runs on five hits through three innings. She also fanned one batter and walked four. Seale pitched two innings, allowing three runs on four hits. She fanned one batter.

In the loss to Faulkner State – which began tournament action on Saturday, March 10 – EC sluggers were Hillie, three singles; and Kennedy, Brass and Casity Yates of Union, singles each. White had an RBI and runs were scored by Kennedy and Hillie.

EC scored its runs in the third and fifth innings. Faulkner, which only managed three hits, tallied four runs in the first inning and two in the fourth.

Seale took the loss for EC, as she allowed four runs on two hits through three innings of work. She also fanned two batters and walked two. Little pitched one inning and gave up two runs on one hit. She walked one batter.

Against PRC, EC was led at the plate by Kennedy and Brass, who had two singles each, and White, who also singled. Brass also knocked in EC's two runs, which were scored by Kennedy and Schmidt.

East Central scored lone runs in the first and third innings. Pearl River tallied six times in the second inning and added a run in the seventh.

Little took the loss for EC, as she allowed six runs on six hits through three innings. She fanned three batters and walked two. Seale pitched one inning and gave up one run on two hits.

EC will also be on the road Friday, March 23 at Itawamba Community College, with doubleheader action getting underway at 3 p.m. on the Fulton campus.

East Central returns home Tuesday, March 27 for a doubleheader with Holmes beginning at 3 p.m.

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NEWTON RECORD ✓

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Lady Diamond Warriors Win Sweeps In Softball

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR—East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball team improved to 4-0 in MACJC Central Division competition by sweeping East Mississippi Community College in doubleheader action Saturday.

The Lady Diamond Warriors posted an 8-0 shutout in the first contest and claimed a 5-1 decision to complete the sweep.

With the victories, the East Central women moved above the .500 mark and are now 16-14 under fourth-year head coach Scott Hill. The Lady Diamond Warriors are the two-time defending MACJC Central Division champions.

In the first contest, Shenique Brass and Lindsey Stevens each homered to lead EC's 11-hit attack. Brass also singled and Whitnee White contributed a double and single in the easy victory.

Other sluggers were Loren Kennedy, Sondreia Hillie and Laura Smith; Candace Griffin, Tiffany Thomas and Jessica Shannon, singles each.

Brass and Shannon collected two RBIs a piece, and Griffin, Thomas and Stevens each had an RBI.

Easom

Runs were scored by White (2), Kennedy, Hillie, Brass, Smith, Griffin and Stevens.

EC scored one run in the first inning, five in the third, one in the fifth and one in the sixth.

Kady Chandler was the winning pitcher, allowing just one hit through five innings of work. She fanned seven batters and walked one. Kimbo Seale pitched one inning in relief and allowed one hit.

In the second contest, the EC offense posted 10 hits with Stevens and Kayla Mullinax leading the offense with three hits each.

Stevens doubled and had two singles and Mullinax recorded three singles. Other sluggers were Hillie, Brass and Smith, doubles each; and White, single.

Kennedy, Hillie, Brass and Smith recorded an RBI each.

Runs were scored by Mullinax (2), Kennedy, Hillie and Brass.

EC scored two runs in the first inning, one in the third and two in the fourth. East Mississippi scored its lone run in the seventh.

Chandler was again the winning pitcher, allowing one run on just two hits though seven innings. She fanned eight batters.

ECCC Splits With Miss. Delta

In doubleheader action with visiting Mississippi Delta Community College on Thursday the Lady Diamond Warriors fell 7-6 in the opener but rallied for a 10-0 victory in the second contest of the non-division battle.

East Central led 6-1 after four innings in the first contest, but the Lady Trojans rallied for four runs in the fifth and two in the seventh to post the victory.

Loren Kennedy had two singles and an RBI to lead the EC offense. Sondreia Hillie, ***Andie Eason of Sebastopol*** and Lindsey Stevens had doubles each, and singles were recorded by Shenique Brass and Candace Griffin; Laura Smith and Lindsey Smith.

Additional RBIs were recorded by Hillie, Brass, Smith and Whitnee White.

Runs were scored by Kennedy, Hillie, Brass, Easom, Stevens and Jessica Shannon of Carthage.

EC tallied four runs in the third and two in the sixth. Delta scored one run in the third, four in the fifth and two in the seventh.

Chandler went the distance for EC on the mound, allowing seven runs (four earned) on 10 hits. She also fanned three batters and walked three.

In the second game, Brass collected three hits-including a second-inning grand slam home run – as the ECCC women easily won the contest, which was called after five innings due to the 10-run rule.

Brass, who also tripled and singled, was joined in the three-hit column by Hillie, who doubled and had two singles. Other sluggers in the 13-hit attack were White, two singles; Kayla Mullinax, double; and Laura Smith, Candace Griffin, Tiffany Thomas and Lindsey Stevens, singles each.

Brass also led in the RBI totals with five and scored three runs. Also collecting RBIs were Hillie, White, Smith and ***Andie Easom of Sebastopol.***

Additional runs were scored by Brass (3), Kennedy (2), White and Mullinax.

EC scored three runs in the first, five in the fifth and two in the fourth.

Kimbo Seale went the distance in earning the victory, as she allowed just two hits while pitching a shutout. She fanned one batter.

ECCC Sweeps Holmes

East Central began MACJC Central Division competition by sweeping Holmes Community College in doubleheader action held Tuesday, March 27 on the Decatur campus.

EC's women won both games by 12-2 margins, which were called after five innings due to the 10-run rule.

In the first contest, East Central pounded 11 hits with Sondreia Hillie of Neshoba Central and Candace Griffin of Philadelphia leading the offensive attack. Hillie hit a grand slam home run and Griffin recorded a homer, single and three RBIs as the Lady Diamond Warriors posted the easy victory.

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WEEK OF April 2/07

East Central freshman third baseman Lindsey Stevens homered in an 8-0 win over East Mississippi Saturday at Decatur. ***Photo by Marty Stamper***

APPEARED IN:

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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IMPACT _____

WEEK OF April 2/07

EC sweeps Holmes, EMCC in division

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

After getting off to a 2-8 start this spring, the East Central Community College Lady Warriors have won 14 of their last 20 games with MACJC Central Division sweeps of Holmes and East Mississippi last week giving them a 16-14 overall record and a 4-0 league slate.

The Lady Warriors travel to Meridian for a division doubleheader with MCC at Highland Park today with first pitch set for 3 p.m.

ECCC	**12-12**
Holmes	**2-2**

The Lady Warriors evened their overall record at 13-13 and improved to 2-0 in the Central Division with the March 27 sweep at Decatur.

Kady Chandler (8-5) got the win in the opener, allowing two earned runs in five innings. She struck out six.

Sondreia Hillie homered and had four RBIs. Candace Griffin had a single and a homer to plate three runs. Loren Kennedy and Shenique Brass both had two hits.

Kimbo Seale (5-5) got the win in the second game, allowing one earned run in four innings. Lindsey Little completed the win.

ballgames.

"We hit the ball well and I can't say enough about Kady Chandler doing a great job for us on the mound. She kept them off-balance and got some strikeouts. I can think of two real big strikeouts where it looked like they might score a run here or there. I'm real proud of her effort.

"And I'm real proud of us defensively and offensively."

In the opener, the Lady Warriors took a 1-0 lead in the first inning as Loren Kennedy beat out a bunt single, moved up on a single by Shenique Brass, and scored when Brass got caught in a rundown on a double steal attempt.

The Lady Warriors broke the game open with five runs in the third. Sondriea Hillie hit a two-out single and Brass followed with a two-run homer to left field. After a walk to Whitnee White, Laura Smith, Candace Griffin, Tiffany Thomas and Jessica Shannon delivered consecutive singles with Griffin driving in one run and Shannon plating two.

EC took a 7-0 lead in the fifth as White led off with a ground-rule double and scored on a sacrifice fly by Thomas.

Lindsey Stevens ended the game with a solo blast to left field to lead off the bottom of the sixth.

Brass had three hits including a double and a homer to drive in six runs. Laura Smith had a single and a double. Whitnee White had two singles. Lindsey Stevens had a double.

ECCC	**8-4**
East Mississippi	**0-1**

The Lady Warriors got solid performances in all three phases of the game Saturday at Decatur as they poked their noses above .500 with a Central Division sweep of the Lady Lions.

EC improved to 16-14 overall and 4-0 in the division. EMCC dropped to 3-16 and 1-5.

In the two games, EC got two strong pitching performances from Kady Chandler, banged out 22 hits, and committed just one error in 13 innings.

Chandler struck out seven and allowed one walk and no hits in five innings in the opener to up her record to 9-6.

In the second game, she gave up two hits and fanned eight with no walks to improve to 10-6.

"I think we came out focused and ready to play," EC coach Scott Hill said. "I was hoping that would be the case with this being two division

Nicole Lanthier took the loss. The Lady Lions' only hit was a single by Kristie Owens off reliever Kimbo Seale in the top of the sixth.

EMCC had only three baserunners as Chandler retired 13 in a row from the first through the fifth innings.

EC had 11 hits with Brass and White both getting two. Each offensive starter had at least one hit.

The Lady Warriors went up 2-0 in the first inning of the second game as Kennedy led off with a single and scored when Hillie doubled. Hillie scored on a ground out by Brass.

Brass made it 3-0 in the third as she doubled and scored on a two-out ground-rule double by Smith.

Kayla Mullinax made it 4-0 in the fourth as she singled and scored on a fielder's choice by Kennedy.

Amechia Hickmon broke up the shutout as she led off the top of the seventh with a solo homer to left field.

EC had 11 hit with Stevens and Mullinax both getting three.

EMCC's only other hit was a single by Ashlyn Grossie to lead off the game.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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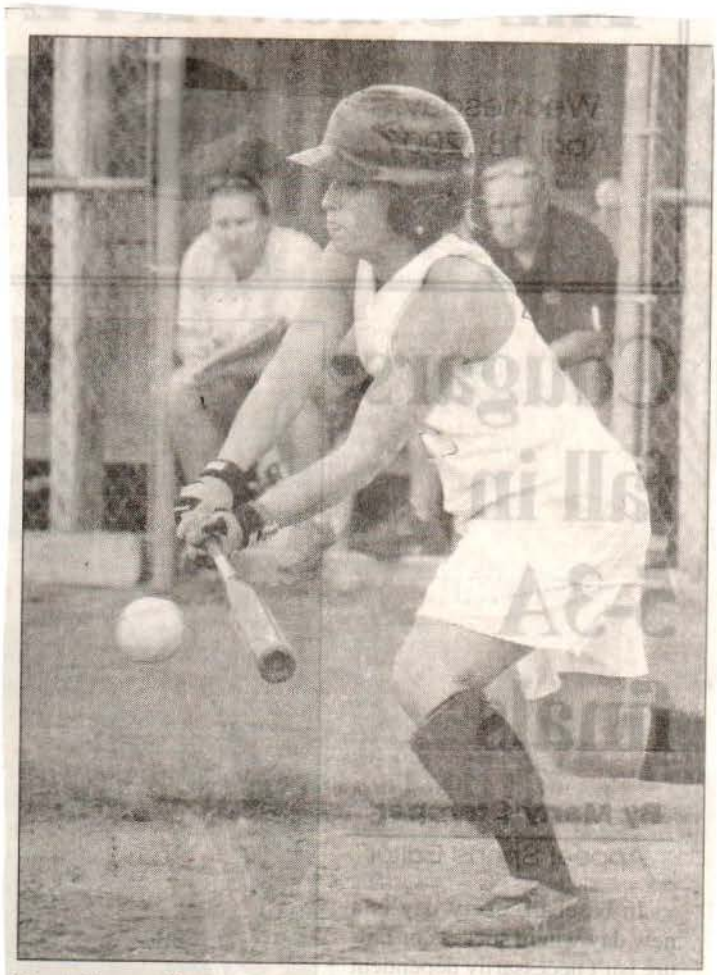
WEEK OF April 16/07



East Central's Loren Kennedy of Union makes good contact with a pitch in a recent game with East Mississippi. ***Photo by Marty Stamper***

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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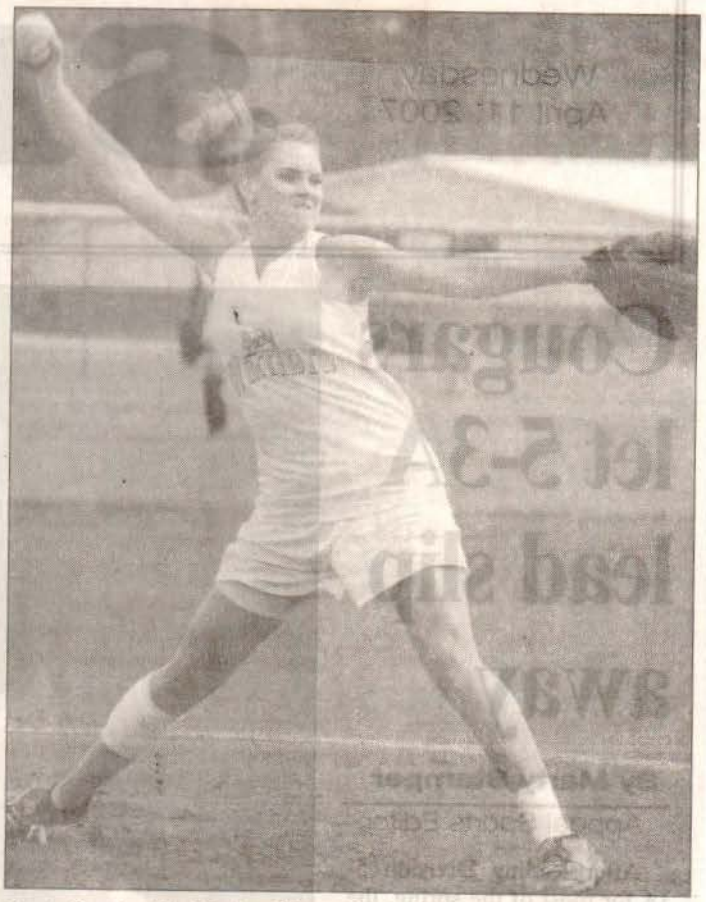
WEEK OF April 18/07



East Central's Kady Chandler pitches during a recent game at Decatur. The Lady Warriors were swept 8-0 and 8-0 by Meridian Community College last week to fall to 16-16 for the year. *Photo by Marty Stamper*

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WEEK OF April 9/07

ECCC Lady Diamond Warriors Swept By MCC

East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball team dropped a pair of 8-0 decisions to Meridian Community College April 4 on the MCC campus.

The Lady Diamond Warriors, who fell to 16-16 overall and 4-2 in the MACJC Central Division following the defeats, managed just one hit in the first contest and two hits in the nightcap.

Laura Smith, a freshman from Neshoba Central High School, singled for EC's lone hit in the opener.

Freshman Kady Chandler, who is also a Neshoba Central product, took the loss on the mound for EC, allowing eight runs (five earned) on nine hits through four and two-thirds innings. She fanned five batters and walked one.

Meridian, which pounded 10 hits, scored two runs in the third inning and six in the fifth.

In the second contest, Sondreia Hill and Whitnee White, both of Neshoba Central, singled for EC.

Meridian collected 10 hits in the five-inning match-up, and scored two runs in the first inning, four in the second and one in the fourth and fifth innings.

Kimbo Seale, a freshman from Clarkdale, was the losing pitcher. She allowed eight runs (four earned) on 10 hits through four and two-thirds innings. She fanned one batter and walked one.

The Lady Diamond Warriors travel to Hinds Community College on Tuesday, April 10 for doubleheader action getting underway at 2 p.m. in Raymond, and will be on the road Thursday, April 12 for a 4 p.m. doubleheader at Pearl River Community College in Poplarville. East Central hosts Southwest Mississippi Community College on Monday, April 16. Game times are 3 and 5 p.m.

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WEEK OF April 23/07

East Central sweeps EMCC, Holmes in key division contests

East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball team moved a step closer to qualifying for post-season play following double-header sweeps of East Mississippi and Holmes community college teams last week.

The Lady Diamond Warriors posted 6-5 and 9-5 victories over East Mississippi Saturday afternoon in Scooba and claimed 7-4 and 8-5 decisions over Holmes April 18 on the Goodman campus.

With the victories, EC improved to 25-17 overall and 9-3 in MACJC Central Division competition under fourth-year head coach Scott Hill. (The overall total also includes two doubleheader forfeits from Southwest.)

The Lady Diamond Warriors have two division double-headers remaining and both are home contests: Meridian Community College on Wednesday, April 25 and the regular season finale with Hinds Community College on Saturday, April 28. The match-ups with Meridian begin at 3 p. m. and the doubleheader with Hinds gets underway at 11 a.m.

The MACJC State Tournament is scheduled May 3-5 and the Region 23 Tournament is set for May 10-11, at sites yet to be announced.

In the first win over the Lady Lions, Whitnee White of Neshoba Central led the offense with a triple and two singles. Sondreia Hillie, also of Neshoba Central, had another productive outing as she homered and singled. Other players recording two hits each were Shenique Brass of Philadelphia, double and single; and Jessica Shannon of Carthage and Lindsey Stevens of Newton County, two singles each. Laura Smith of Neshoba Central also singled.

White and Stevens were also credited with two RBIs each.

Runs were scored by Hillie (2), Brass (2), Smith and Shannon.

EC scored single runs in the first, second, sixth and seventh innings

ECCC Holmes Doubleheader

Smith doubled and singled, and Brass had two singles to lead the EC offense in the first win over Holmes. Smith was also credited with two RBIs and scored a run. Brass also scored.

Hillie also had a productive outing, as she blasted a home run and knocked in three runs. She also scored. White had a double and scored two runs. Singles were recorded by Kennedy, Shannon and Candace Griffin of Philadelphia. Griffin also had an RBI, and Shannon scored a run as did Stevens.

EC trailed 2-0 after the first inning then rallied for six runs in the fifth and added an insurance run in the seventh.

Holmes scored its other two runs in the sixth.

Chandler went the distance for EC on the mound, allowing four runs on nine hits. She fanned eight batters and walked none.

In the second contest, EC overcame a 5-2 four-inning deficit by scoring two runs in the fifth, one in the seventh and three in the eighth.

Brass led the EC offense with a homer and two singles. Stevens also homered. Other sluggers were Hillie, double and single; Kennedy and Smith, two singles each; and White, Seale, Stevens and Lindsey Little of Newton County, singles each.

Smith and Stevens also had two RBIs each, and Little and Griffin knocked in a run a piece.

Runs were scored by Kennedy (2), Brass (2), Hillie, White, Shannon and Stevens.

Chandler hurled four scoreless innings to pick up the win for EC. She allowed just two hits and fanned five batters. Seale was the starter and gave up five runs on seven hits. She fanned one batter.

and tallied two runs in the fifth.

East Mississippi tallied one run in the second inning, one in the fourth, two in the sixth and one in the seventh.

Kady Chandler of Neshoba Central picked up the win for EC on the mound. She allowed four earned runs on nine hits through six and two-thirds innings. She fanned five batters and walked three.

In the second contest, EC jumped out to a 5-0 lead after two innings and added three runs in the sixth to insure the victory. East Central also scored a run in the fourth inning.

The Lady Lions tallied four runs in the third to cut the EC lead to 5-4, but could get no closer as they only managed a single run in the sixth.

EC hitters were Hillie, triple and single; Brass, double and single; Stevens, two singles; Smith and White, doubles each; and Loren Kennedy and Tiffany Thomas, both of Union, singles each.

Brass led EC in the RBI category with three. Also knocking in runs were Hillie (2), White (2) and Kennedy.

Runs were scored by Kennedy (2), Hillie (2), Stevens (2), Brass, Thomas and Kayla Mullinax of Stringer.

Chandler pitched four-and-a-third innings of relief to earn the victory. She allowed one run on four hits. She fanned five batters. Seale was the starter for EC and gave up four runs on six hits through two- and two-thirds innings. She walked one batter.

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WEEK OF April 23/07

Two days later, ECCC comes out on top

By Marty Stamper
special to The Star

DECATUR — After watching her teammates fire blanks with runners in scoring position the previous two innings, Tiffany Thomas rifled a shot down the left-field line to plate Candace Griffin with the winning run as East Central Community College edged Meridian Community College 7-6 in Friday's completion of Wednesday's rain-suspended MACJC Central Division softball doubleheader.

ECCC improved to 11-3 in the division and 27-17 overall with the sweep.

Meridian fell to 8-5 and 19-21. Hinds is 10-4 in division play. The top two teams advance to the postseason.

MCC hosts Holmes in a noon triple-header today, while ECCC hosts Hinds in a doubleheader beginning at 11 a.m.

One win today would give ECCC the division championship.

"We've got to come with the same kind of intensity that we had in these two ballgames against Meridian," said ECCC coach Scott Hill. "Hinds has already shown they're capable of beating anybody. They've got a good offensive team and they're going to play hard. We've got to keep the intensity up to come back and win a ballgame."

If MCC and Hinds have identical division records, Hinds would advance to the playoffs due to a 3-1 advantage in head-to-head games.

"That's basically it in a nutshell, but this group here dug a hole for themselves," said MCC coach Robert Eakins. "They didn't want to play all year until adversity got their back against the wall. They'll take what they get.

"They have basically played when they felt like playing and then when they get their backs against the wall, they want to dig down deep, but it's too late then. You've got to play up front.

"East Central has got a fine ballclub and they didn't panic. They did the things that they had to do."

ECCC took a 13-8 win in Wednesday's opener before rain halted the second game with a 6-6 tie.

When play resumed Friday with ECCC batting in the bottom of the fifth inning, the Lady Warriors got runners at second and third with one out, but Shanese Hunter got a pair of groundouts to keep the tie intact. The second out of the inning came when MCC shortstop Courtney Gordon fielded a grounder and gunned down Laura Smith at the plate.

ECCC threatened again in the sixth with runners at second and third with one out, but Hunter got a strikeout and a groundout to escape unscathed.

Griffin and Thomas made sure the seventh inning would be the final one.

Griffin led off with a single when her Texas Leaguer fell in left-center field between three Lady Eagles. After a pair of wild pitches on bunt attempts by Thomas, the sophomore catcher from Union lashed a single down the left-field line as Griffin came home with the game-winner.

"We were wanting her to push the runner over to third with less than two outs. I guess now we're saying we're glad she didn't," Hill said of the game-winning hit. "She bunted at a ball that was in the dirt, but the ball went to the backstop and we advanced anyway.

"With two strikes, she gets up there and drives one down the line. That was her second hit in the 2 1/2 innings we played today. That was a real satisfying hit because it was a hit against a very good Meridian team. They kept battling. We had our chances and they kept getting out of the inning. I was starting to get worried because we couldn't push one across."

Kady Chandler held the Lady Eagles at bay in relief to get the win. She retired all six batters she faced on Friday after setting down all six when she entered the circle on Wednesday.

MCC had a chance to put the Lady Warriors away on Wednesday, leading 6-1 with the bases loaded and nobody out in the top of the third inning.

Three straight ground balls produced no further damage.

ECCC then got a three-run homer from Whitnee White in the bottom of the third and pulled even with two runs in the fourth as Sondreia Hillie tripled in one run and scored on a throwing error on the play.

"We had a chance to break the game open when it was 6-1 and we went up to the plate not disciplined and gave them some added life and they took advantage of it," Eakins said. "My hat's off to EC."

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____
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PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

FORCED

MCC's Terra Moore forces out East Central's Sondreia Hillie.

ECCC

From Page C1

well was put the ball in play as seven of the first eight batters each had two hits.

In ECCC's big inning, Jessica Shannon had a two-run triple and an RBI single. Shenique Brass jacked a grand slam for an 8-3 lead.

"We got behind three runs early on and we didn't quit. That's a positive and I'm proud of the girls for that for sure," ECCC coach Scott Hill said.

MCC closed to within 10-7 in the fourth when ECCC right fielder Whitnee White was unable to make a running catch on a bases-loaded fly ball by Courtney Gordon. When the throw back to the infield was thrown back into the outfield by Laura Smith, all four Lady Eagles were able to cross the plate.

White atoned for her error with a solo homer to right-center to lead off the bottom of the fourth.

ECCC went up 13-7 in the fifth as Loren Kennedy laid down a two-out bunt single and circled the bases when MCC catcher Whitney Drachenberg's throw sailed into the right-field corner. Sondreia Hillie followed with a single and scored on a double by Brass.

Gordon singled home MCC's final run in the top of the sixth.

Kady Chandler tossed a four-hitter with 11 strikeouts and six walks to get the win.

Kennedy, Hillie, Brass, White, Smith, Tiffany Thomas, and Shannon each had two hits for the Lady Warriors.

Biggs had a single and a double for MCC. Gabrielle Morgan took the loss.

The Lady Eagles took an early 6-1 lead in Game 2 scoring four runs in the top of the first off Kimbo Seale. Shanese Hunter had a two-run single with Drachenberg and Carsheena Blanks getting RBI singles.

ECCC got one run back in the bottom of the first as Hillie walked and scored on a two-out wild pitch by Hunter.

Drachenberg upped MCC's lead to 6-1 with a two-run homer to left field in the top of the second inning.

ECCC closed to within 6-4 with three runs in the bottom of the third.

Kennedy led off with a walk and Hillie followed with a single to set the stage for a three-run bomb to left field by White.

A two-out rally in the fourth enabled the Lady Warriors to pull even at 6-6. After Kennedy drew a walk, Hillie delivered a triple and scored on an error on a throw to third base.

"We're down five and it didn't look good at the time," Hill said. "We happened to get out of a big, big inning down 6-1 and it looked like they could do some big-time damage with the bases loaded and no outs. We got a couple ground balls and got out of the inning. This game could have been a whole lot different.

"We kept our focus and I'm proud of the girls for that. Anytime you play Meridian, they're a good ballclub and they're going to take advantage of what you give them."

With the sacks full and nobody out in the top of third, Seale got three straight ground balls to leave the

Chandler, who came on in relief of Seale in the fourth, retired all six batters she faced, three on strikeouts as the Lady Warriors rallied to pull even. Only one of the six runs scored on Seale was earned.

Hillie has two hits for ECCC, while Drachenberg, Hunter and Blanks each have two for the Lady Eagles.

MCC travels to Pensacola Junior College for a doubleheader today before hosting Holmes Community College in a noon tripleheader on Saturday. ECCC hosts Hinds on Saturday at 11 a.m.

CLARION-LEDGER
IMPACT
WEEK OF April 23/07

MACJC Central Division Softball: Game 1: East Central 13, Meridian 8; Game 2 suspended

PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN

LAID OUT

East Central Community College's Shenique Brass dives to try and knock down a hard-hit grounder up the middle against Meridian Community College Wednesday afternoon in Deca

East Central, Mother Nature take win

By Marty Stamper
Special to The Star

DECATUR — East Central Community College maintained a precarious lead in the MACJC Central Division fast-pitch softball standings with a 13-8 win over Meridian Community College in Wednesday's opener.

Meridian led 3-0 before ECCC put up 10 runs in the bottom of the second inning en route to the victory.

The Lady Warriors rallied from a 6-1 deficit in Game 2 to pull even at 6-6 when rain suspended play with ECCC batting in the bottom of the fifth inning.

Game 2 will be resumed tentatively on Friday at 4:30 p.m.

With the win, ECCC improved to 10-3 in the division and 26-17 overall. MCC fell to 8-4 and 19-20. Also firmly in the playoff hunt is Hinds with a 10-4 league mark coming into Saturday's doubleheader at ECCC.

In erasing MCC's early lead in Game 1, the Lady Warriors got eight hits in the second inning and took advantage of four errors by the Lady Eagles, two coming on dropped fly balls in the outfield.

Not that ECCC didn't have its own problems defensively as the Lady Warriors had three passed balls — two coming on strikeouts — in the top of the second inning as MCC tallied three times. De'Miracle Biggs had a two-run single to put the Lady Eagles up 3-0.

"Neither team played well the first game," said MCC coach Robert Eakins. "They donated us all our runs and then we donated them 10 in one inning and then they got a couple earned runs, enough to win the game.

"If you're going to be a championship caliber team, whether it's us or them, you've got to learn to play defense and play with your head in the game. I was not proud of my group as far as that is concerned.

"Both of us have basically got our back against the wall."

What the Lady Warriors did do

See **ECCC**
Page C9

PAULA MERRITT / THE MERI

BATTLE CRY

East Central Community College's Shenique Brass is welcomed to home plate by her celebrating teamma after hitting a grand slam in the second inning of Game 1 against Meridian Community College Wednesda

il 23/07

Lady Warriors move to top in tightly-contested ra

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

The East Central Community College Lady Warriors used Central Division road sweeps of Holmes Community College and East Mississippi Community College last week to move atop the league standings.

EC is 9-3 in division play and 25-17 overall. Hinds is 10-4 and Meridian is 8-3. Both play doubleheaders at EC this week — Meridian today at 3 p.m. and Hinds on Saturday at 11 a.m.

ECCC	**7-8**
Holmes	**4-5**

Laura Smith singled and doubled, and Shenique Brass had two singles to lead the EC offense in the first win over Holmes last Wednesday at Goodman. Smith had two RBIs.

Sondreia Hillie blasted a home run and drove in three runs. Whitnee White had a double and scored two runs for the Lady Warriors. Loren Kennedy, Jessica Shannon, and Candace Griffin each had a single.

EC trailed 2-0 after the first inning, but rallied for six runs in the fifth and tacked on an insurance run in the seventh.

Kady Chandler went the distance for EC in the circle, allowing four runs on nine hits. She fanned eight batters with no walks.

In the second game, EC erased a 5-2 deficit after four innings with two runs in the fifth, one in the seventh, and three in the eighth.

Brass led the EC offense with a homer and two singles. Lindsey Stevens also homered. Hillie added a single and a double and Kennedy and Smith had two singles each. Lindsey Little also had a single.

Smith and Stevens also had two RBIs each. Kennedy and Brass both scored a pair of runs.

Chandler hurled four scoreless innings in relief to pick up the win for EC. She allowed just two hits and fanned five.

Kimbo Seale was the starter and gave up five runs on seven hits. She had one strikeout.

ECCC	**6-9**
East Mississippi	**5-5**

In Saturday's opener at Scooba, Whitnee White led the offense with a triple and two singles. Sondreia Hillie homered and singled.

Other Lady Warriors recording two hits each were Shenique Brass with a double and single, and Jessica Shannon and Lindsey Stevens with two singles each. Laura Smith also singled. White and Stevens both had two RBIs.

Kady Chandler picked up the win. She allowed four earned runs on nine hits through 6 2/3 innings. She fanned five batters and walked three.

In the second contest, EC jumped out to a 5-0 lead after two innings and added three runs in the ice the victory.

The Lady Lions tallied f in the third to cut the EC lea but could get no closer.

Hillie had a single and Brass a single and a double, two singles, Smith and Whit ble each, and Loren Kenn Tiffany Thomas a single eac had three RBIs.

Chandler pitched 4 1/3 in relief to earn the victory. She one run on four hits and fan batters.

Kimbo Seale was the st EC and gave up four runs or through 2 2/3 innings. She one batter.

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ECCC's Whitnee White gets congratulated by head coach Scott Hill after one of her two home runs against MCC. *Photo by Marty Stamper*

Lady Warriors still rule Central Division softball

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

Needing to win three out of their four softball games last week to secure their third straight MACJC Central Division championship, the East Central Community College Lady Warriors did just that, sweeping Meridian and splitting with Hinds.

In going 3-1, EC improved to 12-4 in the division and 28-18 overall and clinched a berth in the MACJC state tournament at Senatobia this weekend. The Lady Warriors won seven of their last eight division games.

"I am extremely proud of the job these young ladies have done. We started off with an extremely difficult schedule, which may have gotten us prepared for division play. We are playing our best softball at the right time and hopefully this will continue in the postseason," said EC coach Scott Hill.

In the state tournament, EC (28-18) will take on the Pearl River (19-27)-Northeast (24-25) winner at 2 p.m. on Friday. Play continues through Sunday.

Also in the six-team field are Hinds (26-20), Northwest (35-9), and Gulf Coast (35-2), which is ranked No. 2 in the NJCAA national poll. Northwest is ranked 12th.

ECCC	**13-7**
Meridian	**8-6**

The key division doubleheader started out on Wednesday and didn't finish until Friday due to a rain suspension in the second game.

In the opener, EC rallied from a 3-0 deficit with 10 runs in the bottom of the second inning. Key hits in the inning were a two-run triple by Jessica Shannon and a grand slam by Shenique Brass.

Whitnee White added a solo homer in the fourth and Brass had an RBI double in the fifth.

Kady Chandler got the win, striking out 11. Brass, White, Shannon, Loren Kennedy, Sondreia Hillie, Laura Smith, and Tiffany Thomas each had two hits for EC.

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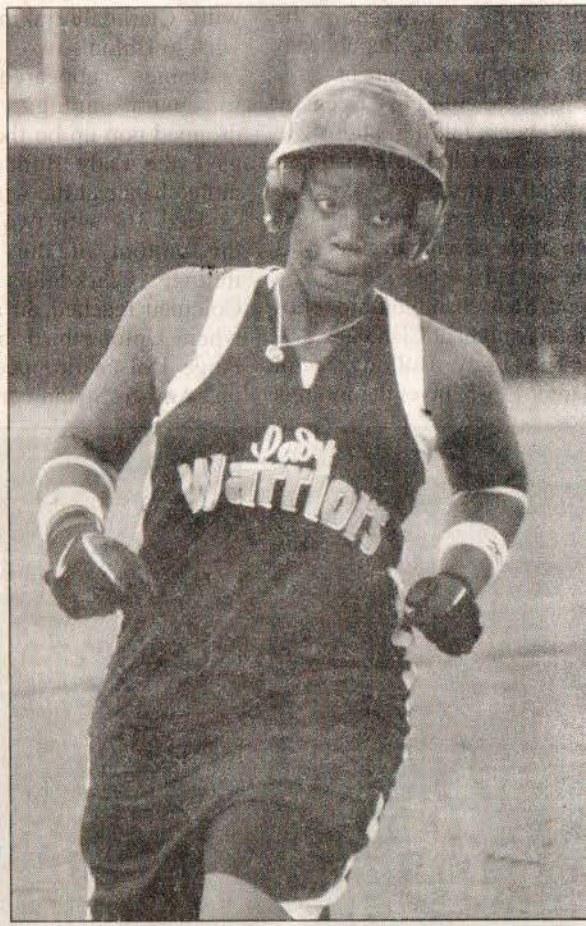

ECCC's Shenique Brass rounds third after crush a grand slam in a 13-8 victory over MCC. *Photo Marty Stamper*

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ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

East Central Community College's Laura Smith slides into home against Meridian on Friday. Smith was called out on the play.

East Central women win Central Division crown

After completing a sweep of Meridian Community College Friday afternoon on the Decatur campus, East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball team needed just one win against visiting Hinds Community College Saturday to claim their third-straight MACJC Central Division title.

And the Lady Diamond Warriors took care of business in the first contest, cruising to a 6-1 victory behind yet another strong performance on the mound by freshman Kady Chandler, a product of Neshoba Central High School.

Chandler, whose record improved to 19-5, allowed just one run on three hits in going the distance for EC in the seven-inning match-up. She also fanned three batters and walked two.

Sondrea Hillie, also a

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by hitting a home run and two singles as part of the squad's 10-hit attack.

Lindsey Stevens of Newton County collected two singles, and Loren Kennedy of Union, Laura Smith of Neshoba Central, Candace Griffin of Philadelphia, Tiffany Thomas of Union and Jessica Shannon of Carthage had singles each.

Hillie, Smith, Griffin, Shannon and Whitnee White of Neshoba Central each recorded an RBI.

Runs were scored by Hillie (3), Kennedy, Griffin and Shenique Brass of Philadelphia.

EC tallied two runs in the first inning, three in the third and one in the fourth.

Hinds scored its lone run in the first inning.

Scott Hill, who is completing his fourth season as head coach, said he is "very proud" of this year's squad and what it has accomplished.

"We started off with an extremely difficult schedule, which may have gotten us prepared for division play. We are playing our best softball at the right time and hopefully this will continue in the post-season," Hill said.

In the second contest – which Hinds needed to win to qualify for the state playoffs – East Central played mostly substitutes and the Lady Eagles took advantage of the opportunity and rallied for an 8-5 decision.

Hillie was again the top offensive performer for EC, as she blasted her second homer of the day and added a single.

Stevens also collected two hits – a double and single – and Brass also had a two-bagger. Singles were recorded by White and Andie Easom of Sebastopol.

Stevens led in the RBI category with two, and Hillie and Shannon also knocked in a run a pierce.

East Central's Tiffany Thomas celebrates with her former Union teammate Loren Kennedy after getting the game-winning hit against Meridian Friday to cap off a 7-6 victory and take a step toward a division title.

Runs were scored by Brass (2), Hillie, White and Stevens.

EC scored three runs in the first inning and two in the fifth.

Kimbo Seale of Clarkdale went the distance for EC on the mound and took the loss, allowing seven earned runs on 11 hits. She also fanned one batter.

The Lady Diamond Warriors, whose record stands at 28-18 overall and 12-4 in league play, begin first-round action of the MACJC Tournament by taking on the winner of the Pearl River/Northeast contest at 2 p.m. Friday on the Northwest Mississippi Community College campus in Senatobia. Finals are set for Saturday in the double-elimination tournament.

ECCC-MCC

Thomas's hard liner down the third base line in the bottom of the seventh inning brought home Griffin from third and a 7-6 victory for the Lady Diamond Warriors who completed a doubleheader sweep of rival Meridian Community College Friday afternoon.

The game was a continuation from Wednesday's match-ups, when the second contest was called due to rain with the scored tied 6-6 midway in the fifth inning. East Central won the opener by a 13-8 margin.

Meridian had jumped out to a 6-1 lead after two innings in the second contest, but EC rallied for three runs in the third and two in the fourth to tie the contest when rains halted play.

White was the top run producer for EC, as she blasted a three-run dinger. Other sluggers included Hillie, triple and single; Shannon, two doubles; Brass, double; and Griffin, single. Hillie and Shannon also knocked in a run a piece.

Runs were scored by Hillie (3), Kennedy (2), White and Griffin.

Chandler pitched three-and-a-third scoreless innings to record the win. She fanned five batters and walked none. Seale was the starter and gave up four earned runs on six hits through three-and-a-third innings. She walked two batters.

In the first game, EC erased an early 3-0 deficit in grand style by exploding for 10 runs in the bottom of the second inning. The Lady Diamond Warriors added one run in the fourth and two in the fifth and held on for the victory.

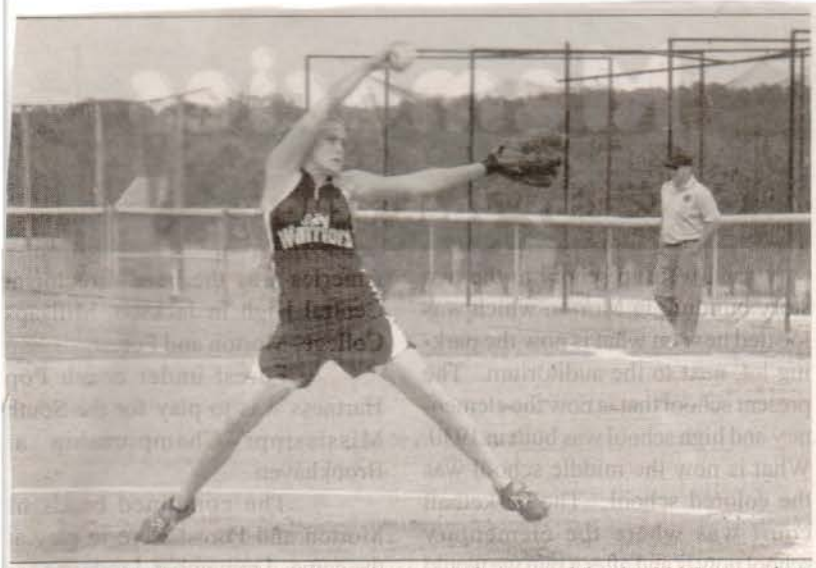
MCC also scored four runs in the fourth and added a run in the sixth.

Seven Lady Diamond Warriors had two hits each in the squad's 15-hit attack. Brass and White each had a home run and double; Shannon had a triple and single; Smith, a double and single; and Kennedy, Thomas and Hillie collected two singles each. Griffin also singled.

Brass led in RBIs with five followed by Shannon with three. White and Griffin knocked in a run a piece.

Runs were scored by Kennedy (2), Hillie (2), White (2), Smith (2), Brass, Griffin, Easom, Shannon and Stevens.

Chandler went the distance for EC to earn the win. She allowed just one earned run on four hits. She fanned 11 batters and walked six.



Kady Chandler has been East Central's ace on the mound for the 2007 campaign, compiling a record of 19 wins and five losses. She is a graduate of Neshoba Central High School.

ECCC Lady Diamond Warriors Capture Division Title; Prepare for State Tourney

After completing a sweep of Meridian Community College Friday afternoon on the Decatur campus, East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball team needed just one win against visiting Hinds Community College Saturday to claim their third-straight MACJC Central Division title.

And the Lady Diamond Warriors took care of business in the first contest, cruising to a 6-1 victory behind yet another strong performance on the mound by freshman Kady Chandler, a product of Neshoba Central High School.

Chandler, whose record improved to 19-5, allowed just one run on three hits in going the distance for EC in the seven-inning match-up. She also fanned three batters and walked two.

Sondrea Hillie, also a freshman product from Neshoba Central, provided the offensive punch for EC by hitting a home run and two singles as part of the squad's 10-hit attack.

Lindsey Stevens of Newton County collected two singles, and Loren Kennedy of Union, Laura Smith of Neshoba Central, Candace Griffin of Philadelphia, Tiffany Thomas of Union and Jessica Shannon of Carthage had singles each.

Hillie, Smith, Griffin, Shannon and Whitnee White of Neshoba Central each recorded an RBI.

Runs were scored by Hillie (3), Kennedy, Griffin and Shenique Brass of Philadelphia.

EC tallied two runs in the first inning, three in the third and one in the fourth.

Hinds scored its lone run in the first inning.

Scott Hill, who is completing his fourth season as head coach, said he is "very proud" of this year's squad and what it has accomplished.

"We started off with an extremely difficult schedule, which may have gotten us prepared for division play. We are playing our best softball at the right time and hopefully this will continue in the post-season," Hill said.

In the second contest – which Hinds needed to win to qualify for the state playoffs – East Central played mostly substitutes and the Lady Eagles took advantage of the opportunity and rallied for an 8-5 decision.

Hillie was again the top offensive performer for EC, as she blasted her second homer of the day and added a single.

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Hinds tallied one run in the first, one in the fifth, three in the six and three in the seventh.

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The Lady Diamond Warriors, whose record stands at 28-18 overall and 12-4 in league play, begin first-round action of the MACJC Tournament by taking on the winner of the Pearl River/Northeast contest at 2 p.m. Friday on the Northwest Mississippi Community College campus in Senatobia. Finals are set for Saturday in the double-elimination tournament.

ECCC Sweeps MCC in delayed match-up

Thomas's hard liner down the third base line in the bottom of the seventh inning brought home Griffin from third and a 7-6 victory for the Lady Diamond Warriors who completed a doubleheader sweep of rival Meridian Community College Friday afternoon.

The game was a continuation from Wednesday's match-ups, when the second contest was called due to rain with the scored tied 6-6 midway in the fifth inning. East Central won the opener by a 13-8 margin.

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ECCC Baseball, Softball Teams Advance To State

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR—The 2007 campaign continues for East Central Community College baseball and softball teams as both squads have qualified for the upcoming MACJC State Tournaments.

The Diamond Warriors, Central Division runners-up, completed regular season action with a 27-21 overall record and were 9-7 in division play under first-year head coach Neal Holliman.

East Central begins state tournament action by taking on host Mississippi Gulf Coast at 7 p.m. Thursday at Perkinston . Gulf Coast won the MACJC South Division title.

Rounding out the six-team bracket are North Division winner Northwest Mississippi Community College and runner-up Itawamba Community College; Central Division winner Meridian Community College; and South Division runner-up Pearl River Community College.

The double-elimination tournament continues through Sunday when the championship game gets underway at 1 p.m.

The Lady Diamond Warriors, who are 28-18 overall, captured their third-straight MACJC Central Division title with a 12-4 mark under fourth-year head coach Scott Hill.

East Central begins competition by challenging the Pearl River/Northeast winner at 2 p.m. Friday.

Northwest Mississippi Community College, MACJC North Division champion, is serving as host for this year's event.

Northeast Mississippi Community College is the North Division runner-up and Pearl River Community College placed second in the South.

Also qualifying for the state tournament are Hinds Community College, Central Division runners-up; and Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, South Division winner.

The three-day tournament concludes on Sunday, May 6, with the championship contest set to begin at 2 p.m. in Senatobia.

Both squads can also qualify for their respective Region 23 Tournament, scheduled the following week, by winning at least one game in state competition.

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WEEK OF 5-7-07

ECCC Lady Warriors finish fourth in state tourney

Special to The Record

East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball team won one contest and lost two decisions in the MACJC State Softball Tournament held May 4-6 at Northwest Mississippi Community College in Senatobia.

The Lady Diamond Warriors –who entered the four-day tournament as Central Division champions – lost a 6-5 heartbreaker to Pearl River to begin tournament action, defeated Northwest 9-3 and fell 8-6 to Hinds Community College, concluding play on Saturday.

In the Pearl River game, EC rallied from a 4-1 deficit by scoring four runs in the seventh for a 5-4 lead but the Lady Wildcats responded with two runs in the bottom of the frame to take the win.

EC hitters were Sondreia Hillie of Neshoba Central, triple; and Loren Kennedy and Tiffany Thomas, both of Union, Shenique Brass and Candace Griffin of Philadelphia, Whitnee White of Neshoba Central and Lindsey Stevens of Newton County, singles each. White also had two RBIs and Brass knocked in a run. Runs were scored by Kennedy, Hillie (2), Brass and Stevens.

Region 23

■ The ECCC women, whose record now stands at 29-20 under fourth-year head coach Scott Hill, advance to the Region 23 Tournament scheduled May 10-12 at the Clinton City Park.

EC, the fifth-seed, begins the double-elimination tournament by challenging Pearl River (no. 4) at noon Thursday. Rounding out the six-team field are state champion and top seed Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, Hinds Community College (no. 2), Northwest Mississippi Community College (no. 6) and LSU-Eunice (no. 3).

Kady Chandler of Neshoba Central took the loss on the mound, allowing five earned runs on seven hits. She fanned three batters and walked one.

In the win over host Northwest, Hillie led the offensive attack with a home run and single and had three RBIs. Other hitters were Smith and Stevens, double and single each; Brass, double; and Kennedy and White, singles each. Brass, White and Smith also had two RBIs each. Runs were scored by Hillie (3), Kennedy (2), Brass (2), Stevens and Kayla Mullinax of Stringer.

EC scored two runs in the first inning, four in the second, two in the third and one in the sixth.

Northwest tallied its three runs in the third.

Chandler was the winning pitcher, allowing three runs on 11 hits. She fanned four batters and walked two.

In the loss to Hinds, EC held a 5-2 advantage until the fifth inning when the Lady Eagles scored four runs and took a 6-5 lead. EC tied the contest at 6-6 in the top of the sixth but Hinds added two runs in the bottom of the frame and held on for the victory.

Hillie, Brass, Mullinax and Stevens had two singles each to lead EC. Kennedy and White had singles each. Brass and Hillie also had three RBIs each. Runs were scored by Stevens (3), Kennedy, Hillie and Mullinax.

Chandler took the loss for EC, allowing two earned runs on one hit in the final inning. She fanned one batter and walked one. Kimbo Seale of Clarkdale was the starter and allowed four earned runs on six hits through four and two-thirds innings. She fanned one batter and walked four.

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ____

OTHER ____

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NEWTON RECORD ✓

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CLARION-LEDGER ____

IMPACT ____

Lady Warriors falter in state tournament

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

After winning the MACJC Central Division regular season championship for the third year in a row, the East Central Community College Lady Warriors managed just one win in three games in the MACJC State Tournament at Senatobia last week.

ECCC, 29-20, will be participating in the NJCAA Region 23 Tournament at Clinton City Park this week. The Lady Warriors open with Pearl River at noon on Thursday and would face top-seeded and MACJC state champion Gulf Coast with a win.

Pearl River	**6**
ECCC	**5**

In Friday's state tournament opener at Senatobia, the Lady Warriors scored four runs in the top of the seventh inning to take a 5-4 lead, only to give up a pair of runs in the bottom of the inning to fall to 28-19.

Sondreia Hillie had a triple for EC with Loren Kennedy, Tiffany Thomas, Shenique Brass, Candace Griffin, Whitnee White, and Lindsey Stevens each getting a single. White had two RBIs.

Kady Chandler took the loss, allowing five earned runs on seven hits. She fanned three batters and walked one.

ECCC	**9**
Northwest	**3**

In Saturday's win over the Lady Rangers, Sondreia Hillie led the offense with a single and a home run to drive in three runs.

East Central Community College sophomore Tiffany Thomas of Union gets a hug from head coach Scott Hill after she knocked in the winning run in East Central Community College's recent 7-6 victory over Meridian. ***(EC Photo)***

EC scored twice in the first inning, added four more runs in the second, and two in the third to pull away early.

The Lady Warriors also got a single and a double each from Laura Smith and Lindsey Stevens, a double from Shenique Brass, and a single apiece from Loren Kennedy and Whitnee White. Smith and White both had two RBIs.

Northwest scored all three of its runs in the third frame.

Kady Chandler got the win, allowing three runs on 11 hits. She struck out four and walked two.

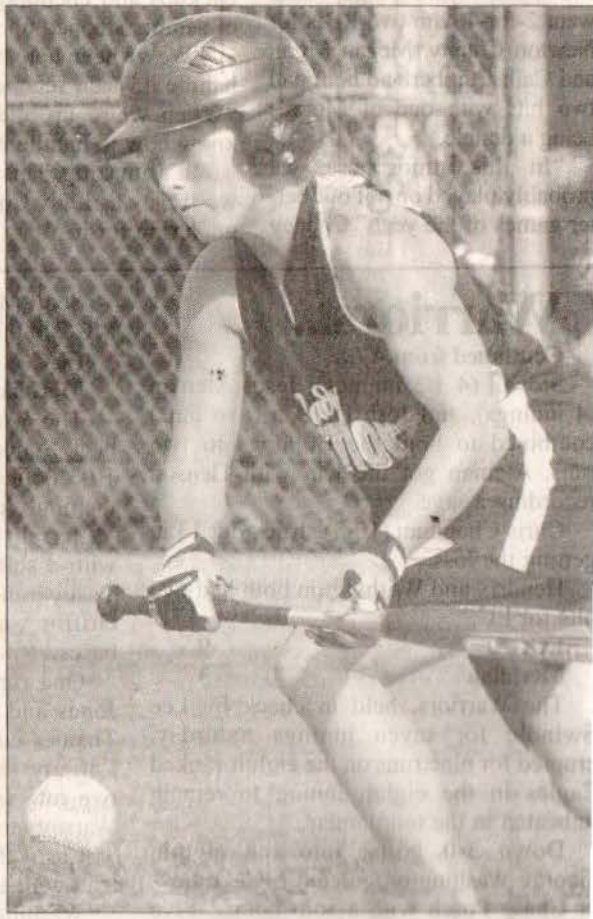
Hinds	**8**
ECCC	**6**

The Lady Warriors led 5-2 Saturday until Hinds rallied to put up four runs in the fifth inning.

EC drew even at 6-6 in the top of the sixth, only to have the Lady Eagles score twice in the bottom of the sixth for the win.

Sondreia Hillie, Shenique Brass, Kayla Mullinax, and Lindsey Stevens each had two singles for the Lady Warriors, 29-20. Brass and Hillie had three RBIs apiece.

Kady Chandler took the loss, allowing two earned runs on one hit in the final inning. Kimbo Seale was the starter and allowed four earned runs on six hits through four and two-thirds innings.



East Central Community College sophomore Lor Kennedy of Union bunts during a recent game. ***Photo by Marty Stamper***

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WEEK OF May 7/07

Pearl River rolls past East Central

from special reports

JUCO SOFTBALL

CLINTON — Pearl River's Lady Wildcats took a 7-3 victory over East Central's Lady Warriors to open the 2007 NJCAA Region 23 Tournament here Thursday afternoon.

LSU-Eunice trimmed Northwest Mississippi 3-1 in other Thursday action before a torrential downpour postponed the day's remaining game until Friday. LSU-E will battle MACJC runner-up Hinds at 9 a.m. Friday.

Pearl River improved to 22-29 overall with the victory, while East Central dropped to 29-21.

The Lady Warriors wasted little time getting on the scoreboard, going up 2-0 in the top of the opening frame.

Lady Wildcat starter Elizabeth Powers cranked things up by retiring two straight, but ECCC loaded the bases off a single, a fielder's choice, and an error before Powers belted Candace Griffin with a pitch to push the first run home. Kayla Mullinax followed with an RBI single before Powers struck out Jessica Shannon.

Pearl River tied it up in the bottom of the inning when Whitney Sumpter reached after being hit by a pitch and Jessica Dubuisson followed with a double to set the stage for a two-run double by Courtney Dickens.

ECCC regained the lead in the third off an RBI double by Shenique Brass, but PRCC retaliated in the bottom of the frame with five runs.

Viki Ferencak got things going with a two-out single, then Jessica Scallan smashed a two-run homer to make it 4-3. Sumpter walked and Dubuisson singled, setting the stage for a three-run over-the-fence shot by Krystal Penton.

ECCC starter Kimbo Seale of Clarkdale exited the mound for ace Kady Chandler at that point. Chandler immediately struck out Dickens to end the inning and struck out the side in the third.

Dubuisson relieved Powers to start the fourth, giving up her only hit — a double — in her first inning on the mound. She finished the game with seven strikeouts and a walk, while Chandler also struck out seven.

Dubuisson also paced Pearl River's six-hit attack with a double and a single (one RBI), while Penton (three RBIs) and Scallan (two RBIs) homered, Dickens doubled (two RBIs), and Ferencak singled.

The Lady Warriors, who played error-free in the game, finished with five hits; led by Brass' double and single (one RBI), while Mullinax (one RBI) and Loren Kennedy both singled.

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WEEK OF 5-14-07

EC Lady Warriors go two-and-out at regional

from school reports

East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball team wrapped up another successful campaign following participation in the Region 23 Tournament, Thursday-Saturday, at Clinton.

The Lady Diamond Warriors, who won a third-straight MACJC Central Division title and finished 29-23 under fourth-year head coach Scott Hill, lost a pair of 7-3 decisions to Pearl River and LSU-Eunice in the double-elimination tournament, won by Gulf Coast.

Hill praised his team's efforts during the 2007 campaign.

"I am very proud of our entire team. We started the season a little slow, but played very well during the second half of the season, especially during division play. Capturing the division championship was a great accomplishment and was one of the many goals this team met during the season. Our sophomores did a tremendous job for us the past two seasons and we will miss them very much!"

In the first-round loss to Pearl River on Thursday, Shenique Brass of Philadelphia led EC at the plate with a double and single. She also collected an RBI and scored once. Loren Kennedy of Union belted a double and Kayla Mullinax of Stringer singled and knocked in a run. Whitnee White of Neshoba Central and Lindsey Little of Newton County also scored a run each.

The Lady Diamond Warriors jumped out to 2-0 first-inning lead, but Pearl River rallied with a pair of runs in its half of the inning to tie the contest.

EC regained the lead with a run in the second, but the Lady Wildcats responded with five runs in the second and held on for the 7-3 victory.

Kimbo Seale of Clarkdale took the loss for EC on the mound, allowing seven runs on six hits through 2 1/3 innings. She fanned one and walked one. Kady Chandler of Neshoba Central hurled the final 3 2/3 innings, fanning six and walking one.

LSU-Eunice scored three runs in the fourth and four in the fifth to eliminate the Lady Warriors in Friday's action.

East Central — which scored two runs in the fifth and one in the sixth — was led by Kennedy's double and single, and Laura Smith's home run. White and Stevens had doubles each, and Mullinax and Tiffany Thomas of Union each had singles. Kennedy also had two RBIs.

Chandler went the distance in taking the loss.

East Central's Whitnee White takes a cut during late-season action at Decatur.
Photo by Marty Stamper

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WEEK OF 5-14-07

Lady Warriors finish 29-22

East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball team wrapped up another successful campaign following participation in the Region 23 tournament held May 10-12 at the tournament's new home in Clinton.

The Lady Diamond Warriors, who won a third-straight MACJC Central Division title and finished 29-22 under fourth-year head coach Scott Hill, lost a pair of 7-3 decisions to Pearl River and LSU-Eunice in the double-elimination tournament, won by Gulf Coast.

Hill praised his team's efforts during the 2007 campaign.

"I am very proud of our entire team," Hill said. "We started the season a little slow, but played very well during the second half of the season especially during division play.

"Capturing the division championship was a great accomplishment and was one of the many goals this team met during the season. Our sophomores did a tremendous job for us the past two seasons and we will miss them very much."

The Lady Diamond Warriors jumped out to 2-0 first-inning lead but Pearl River rallied with a pair of runs in its half of the inning to tie the contest.

EC regained the lead with a run in the second, but the Lady Wildcats responded with five runs in the second and held on for the 7-3 victory.

LSU-Eunice scored three runs in the fourth and four in the fifth to eliminate the Lady Warriors in Friday's action.

East Central scored two runs in the fifth and one in the sixth.

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

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WEEK OF May 28, 2007

ECCC Lady Warriors Wrap Softball Season

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR—The East Central Community College's Lady Warriors fast-pitch softball team wrapped up another successful campaign following participation in the Region 23 tournament held May 10-12 at the tournament's new home in Clinton.

The Lady Diamond Warriors, who won a third-straight MACJC Central Division title and finished 29-22 under fourth-year head coach Scott Hill, lost a pair of 7-3 decisions to Pearl River and LSU-Eunice in the double-elimination tournament, won by Gulf Coast.

Hill, whose family remains in Scott County, praised his team's efforts during the 2007 campaign.

"I am very proud of our entire team. We started the season a little slow, but played very well during the second half of the season especially during division play," Hill said.

"Capturing the division championship was a great accomplishment and was one of the many goals this team met during the season. Our sophomores did a tremendous job for us the past two seasons and we will miss them very much!."

In the first-round loss to the Lady Wildcats, Shenique Brass of Philadelphia led EC at the plate with a double and single. She also collected an RBI and scored once.

Loren Kennedy of Union belted a double and Kayla Mullinax of Stringer singled and knocked in a run. Whitnee White of Neshoba Central and Lindsey Little of Newton County also scored a run each.

The Lady Diamond Warriors jumped out to 2-0 first-inning lead but Pearl River rallied with a pair of runs in its half of the inning to tie the contest.

EC regained the lead with a run in the second, but the Lady Wildcats responded with five runs in the second and held on for the 7-3 victory.

Kimbo Seale of Clarkdale took the loss for EC on the mound, allowing seven runs on six hits through two and one-third innings. She fanned one batter and walked one.

Kady Chandler of Neshoba Central hurled the final three and two-thirds innings, fanning six batters and walking one.

LSU-Eunice scored three runs in the fourth and four in the fifth to eliminate the Lady Warriors in Friday's action.

East Central - which scored two runs in the fifth and one in the sixth - was led by Kennedy's double and single, and Smith's home run.

White and Stevens had doubles each, and Mullinax and Tiffany Thomas of Union each had singles. Kennedy also had two RBIs. Runs were scored by Smith, Mullinax and Stevens.

Chandler went the distance for EC on the mound and took the loss. She allowed six earned runs on 11 hits. She fanned seven batters and walked two.

The team also includes ***Andie Easom of Sebastopol.***

Next season, Easom will be joined by former Lady Bobcats teamate ***Emily Thrash*** who signed with ECCC earlier this spring.

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF June 4, 2007

ECCC softball team award winners

East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball players recently received awards following their successful 2007 campaign. Seated from left are Candace Griffin ofPhiladelphia, Jessica Shannon ofCarthage, Tiffany Thomas ofUnion and Kayla Mullinax of Stringer, who were presented team captain awards. Standing from left are Lindsey Stevens, a product of Newton County High School, most improved; Loren Kennedy of Union, All-Region 23, first team MACJC All-State, first team All-Division, team captain, scholar athlete and most outstanding base runner; Sondreia Hillie of Neshoba Central, first team MACJC All-State, first team All-Division and most outstanding defensive player; Shenique Brass of Philadelphia, All-Region 23, first team MACJC All-State, first team All-Division and most outstanding offensive player; Kady Chandler of Neshoba Central, second team MACJC All-State, first team All-Division and most outstanding pitcher; Amanda Schmidt of Carthage, Lady Warrior and team captain awards; and Whitnee White of Neshoba Central, second team All-Division.

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF June 11, 2007

Lady Diamond Warrior Sophomores

Sophomores on East Central Community College's fastpitch softball team honored prior to the final home game are (from left) manager Brooke Harrell, Morton; catcher Tiffany Thomas, Union; outfielder Jessica Shannon, Carthage; outfielder/pitcher Lindsey Little, Newton County; infielder Amanda Schmidt, Carthage; catcher/infielder Kayla Mullinax, Stringer; pitcher Kady Chandler, Neshoba Central; outfielder Loren Kennedy, Union; and infielder/outfielder Candace Griffin, Philadelphia. The Lady Diamond Warriors captured their third-straight MACJC Central Division title this spring under fourth-year head coach Scott Hill.

ECCC photo

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

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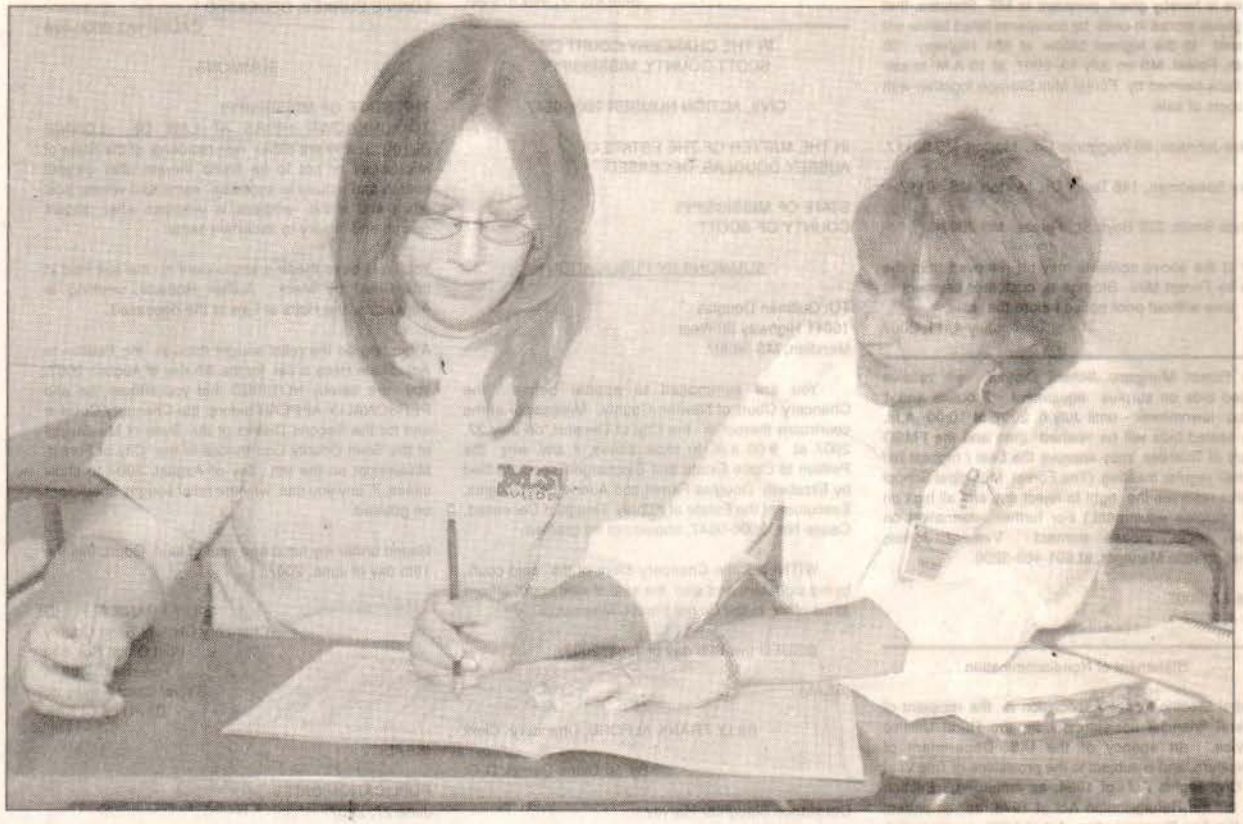
WEEK OF July 2, 2007



ECCC PHOTO

WYNNE ATTENDS ECCC ORIENTATION

Emily Wynne (left) of Lake was among the record 329 students who attended orientation activities held June 1 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Wynne is pictured with English instructor Ann Durham who provided assistance to the incoming freshman in planning her fall semester class schedule. Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Wednesday, July 18; and Friday, August 10. Fall classes begin Thursday, August 16. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 2, 2007

Yarbrough registers for ECCC classes

Barry Yarbrough (right) of Louisville was among area students who attended orientation activities held June 16 at East Central Community College in Decatur. He is shown with Thomas Fortenberry, computer network support technology instructor, who provided assistance to the incoming freshman in planning his class schedule for the fall semester. Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Thursday, June 28; Wednesday, July 18; and Friday, August 10. Fall classes begin Thursday, August 16. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu.

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 9

ECCC PHOTO

READY TO BEGIN WELDING CAREERS

These graduates of East Central Community College's welding program were recently hired by the Hol-Mac Corporation in Bay Springs. Ready to begin their new careers are (seated from left) James Embrey III of Chunky, Clint Graham of Forest and Greg Sanders of Lawrence, and (standing from left) Al Viverette of Lake and Corbett Boggan of Fellowship. Also pictured is Gerald Jordan, welding instructor. For more information regarding ECCC's career-technical programs, contact Christi Gregory, counselor, Phone 601-635-2111, ext. 214.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES √

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 9

Area students attend ECCC orientation

Area students advance registered for fall classes by attending the recent orientation sessions at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Orientation participants and their hometowns and high schools included:

Carthage High School, Rhea Phyllicia Alexander, Manuel Esqueda, Shantie Fortune, Christopher Jerome Kelly, Joshua Keith Smith and Brandon D. Wilcher, all of Carthage;

Choctaw Central, Latina Annette Hall, Walnut Grove;

Edinburg High School, Wesley Thomas McMurry, Carthage, and Kristi, Gwin Hardin, Philadelphia;

Sebastopol Attendance Center, Latashia Denise Watkins, Conehatta, and Lacey Nicole Wilson, Philadelphia;

South Leake Attendance Center: Tyeshia Shuntae' Ealy, Lena;

Also attending were Anthony Rydell Anderson and Lachelle Marie Moss, both of Carthage; Joshua Everett Copes and Kevin L. Windham, both of Walnut Grove.

Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Wednesday, July 18, and Friday, Aug. 10.

Fall classes begin Thursday, Aug. 16.

For more information telephone ECCC Student Services, at 601-635-2111 or, toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205, or email jkillens@eccc.edu.

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CARTHAGINIAN ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 9

NEWTON COUNTY

NONTRADITIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED: Two Nontraditional Scholarships were awarded at Newton County Career and Technical Center Awards Day Program held at ECCC. The two students receiving the scholarships were from left: Sarah Eakes, a completer in the Agricultural and Environmental Science Technology Program, and Shaun Cooper, a completer in the Business and Computer Technology Program. These students demonstrated satisfactory academic standing and made outstanding contributions to their programs. The Nontraditional Scholarships are given to recognize and encourage student interest in pursuing careers that are not traditional for their gender.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

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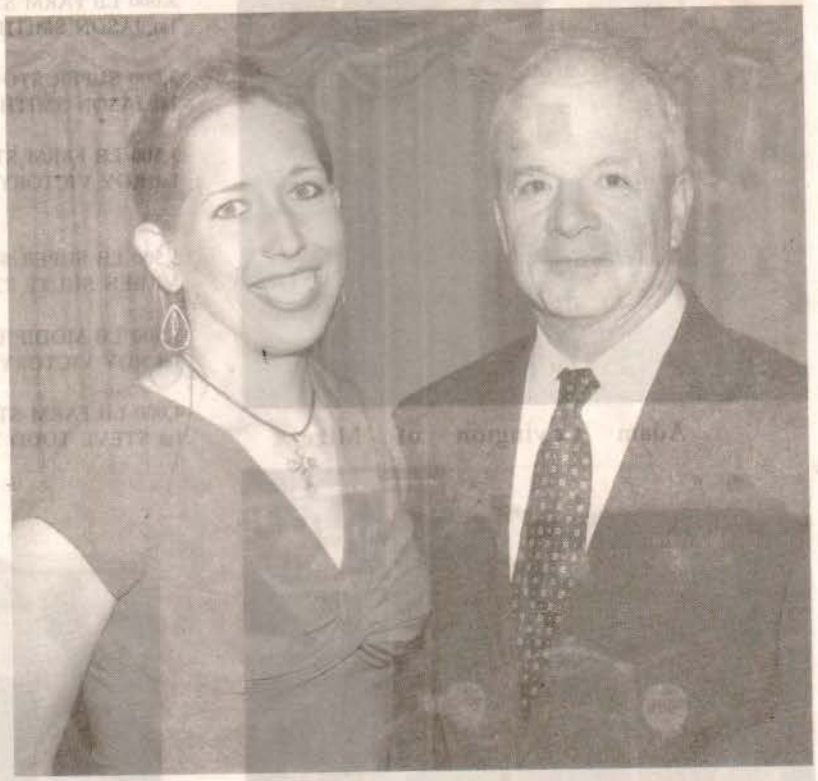
WEEK OF July 16



Receives Board of Trustees Scholarship

Amber McCaughn (left), a 2007 graduate of Pisgah High School, is the recipient of the Board of Trustees Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured with the award recipient is board secretary Royce Shaw of Forest. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓ _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 16

Receive Bank of Morton Scholarship

Morton High School graduate Lindsey Lockert (left) received the Bank of Morton Scholarship and will be attending East Central Community College in Decatur this fall. Also pictured is bank representative Lindsley Keeton (right). The awards were presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 16

Receives Harrison Memorial Scholarship

Andrew Harrison (center), a 2007 graduate of Newton County High School, is the recipient of the Harrison Memorial Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. This scholarship was established by friends of Ricky and Janean Harrison of Little Rock to honor the memory of their children, Crystal and C.J., who were killed in an automobile accident in 1993. Representing the donors is Rev. Keith Rammage (left) of Beulah Baptist Church and Ricky Harrison (right). The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 16

Receives ECCC Class of 1964 Scholarship
Kenneth Hudson (left) of Union is the recipient of the Class of 1964 Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established by the Class of 1964 during their 40-year class reunion in 2004. Representing the donors are Jerald and Rita Everett. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 16

Scholarship winners

Emily Lanier (left), a 2007 graduate of Newton County High School, and Laken Morgan (center), a 2007 graduate of Winston Academy, are the recipients of the East Central Community College Alumni Association's Warrior Golf Classic Scholarships. These scholarships were established in 2002 from proceeds of the annual golf tournament. Pictured with the recipients is ECCC Alumni Association President Florence Henley of Starkville. The awards were presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 16

Scholarships awarded

Recipients of the 2007 Mississippi Association of Supervisors Scholarships at East Central Community College in Decatur include (from left) Kylie Ming of Louisville High School, Emily Wooten of Carthage High School, Codee Russell of Leake Academy and Georgia Johnson of Nanih Waiya High School. Representing the district supervisors is Joe Any Helton (standing right), president of the Leake County Board of Supervisors. The awards were presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 16

Receives Harris Scholarship

Kimberly Williams, center, of Meridian, a first-year associate degree nursing student, is the recipient of the Nancy Hiett Harris Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established in 1998 with a gift from an anonymous donor who had a keen interest in enhancing the quality of the College's ADN program. Harris (pictured at left) was the first director of the ECCC ADN program and spearheaded the College's achievement of initial state and national accreditation. Also pictured is Harris' husband, Johnie Harris. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

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WEEK OF July 16

ECCC PHOTO

LOCALS ATTEND JUNE 16 ORIENTATION AT ECCC

Among area students who recently registered for fall classes at East Central Community College included East Rankin Academy product Caitlin Slay (center) of Forest and Jackson Academy graduate Timothy Zetterholm of Pelahatchie, who attended the June 16 orientation session held on the Decatur campus. The incoming freshmen are shown discussing their class schedules with Dr. Lavinia Sparkman, vice president for instruction. Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Wednesday, July 18; and Friday, August 10. Fall classes begin Thursday, August 16. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu.

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UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 16

Locals Attend ECCC Orientations

Numerous area students advanced registered for fall classes by attending the June 16 and June 28 orientation sessions held at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Joe Killens, vice president for student services.

Students who attended the June 16 orientation session and their respective home towns and high schools included the following:

East Rankin Academy: Seth Donavan McDaniel and Caitlin Michelle Slay, both of Forest, and Donovan Delayne Alford, Morton;

Forest High School: Tawanda Rochelle Boone, Harenzo Janard Chambers, Brad Ramon Ellis, Brittney Sade Ellis, Brittany Roshae Gray, Joseph Austin Lee, Courtney Kreshell Patrick and Roderick Quantail Lofton, all of Forest;

Lake Attendance Center: Mallory Jean Vance, Forest, and Gregory Ryan Bennett, Lake;

Morton Attendance Center: Cory Demetrous Hughes and Allen Matthew Moore, both of Forest; Edward S. Kincaid, Ludlow; and Randall Deshun Ficklin, Jenifer Carola Miranda, Pierre Kevin Miranda, Candice Diane Turbville and Deanna Hope Wallace, all of Newton; and Jack Anthony Anderson, Newton;

Morton Christian Academy: Brandi Dayle Erwin, Morton;

Raleigh High School: Ryan Andrew Lundy, Forest;

Scott Central High School: Matthew K. Futch, Brian Reshod Harrison, Antonio Marshon Manning and Lakeisha Danielle Robinson, all of Forest;

Sebastopol Attendance Center; Wendy Chrea Cater, Conehatta; Tammie Jane Burkes and Wesley Neil Dennis, both of Forest; Josh Seath Arley Jenkins, Philadelphia; and Steven Deotis Landrum and Kasie Danielle Loper, both of Sebastopol;

South Leake Attendance Center: Conyetta Qwane Darby, Aerial Jaleesa Sanders and Kendra Rochelle Sanders, all of Walnut Grove;

Also attending were Charles A. Jenkins and Mark Bradley Latham, both of Lena; John Thomas Nelson, Terry Damaris Sparkman and Erica Lea Roberts, all of Walnut Grove.

Orientation participants from the June 28 session and their respective hometowns and high schools included the following:

East Rankin Academy: Adrienne Marie Bird and Amber Elyse Ivy, both of Morton;

Forest High School: Jacqueline Kenyatta Pace and Iwana Jenise Rankin, both of Forest;

Lake Attendance Center: Adam Alexander Brown, Brandi Renee Gray, Fallon Deann Judge, Jessica Jo Kennedy, Lakendrick Lamar McDaniel, Caleb Joel Monk, Cierra Chardae Robinson and Rashun Jerome Towner, all of Lake;

Morton Attendance Center: Ashley Nicole Ferrell, Ludlow; Justin Edward Crain, Casey Lee Easterling, Gladys Edmond, Krista Leann Fowler, Kevin Lee Gordon, Patricia Sade Harvey, Robert Dillon Heggins, Derrick Terrell Lewis and Austin Loyd, all of Morton;

Newton County Academy: Markii Suzanne Posey, Lake; and Daniel Ryan Clanton, Lawrence;

Sebastopol Attendance Center: Latashia Denise Watkins, Conehatta, and Lacey Nicole Wilson, Philadelphia;

South Leake Attendance Center: Tyeshia Shuntae' Ealy, Lena;

Also attending the June 28 session were Joshua Wayne Puckett, II, Forest; Tomeka Shante Gibbs, Morton; Joshua Everett Copes and Kevin L. Windham, both of Walnut Grove; and Raterika J. Smith, Lawrence.

Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Wednesday, July 18 and Friday, August 10.

Fall classes begin Thursday, August 16. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu.

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 16

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Wilkes-Palmer Scholarship award

Kayla Adcock (left), a 2007 graduate of Winston Academy, is the recipient of the Wilkes-Palmer Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established in 1998 by the late Elgie Chatham in honor of her parents, J. Earl and Willie Palmer Wilkes. Pictured with the recipient is ECCC academic counselor Lanette Hanna. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 16

Thomas Scholarship

Deandra Graham (center), a 2007 graduate of Philadelphia High School, is the recipient of the Charles and Judy Dowdle Thomas Scholarship at East Central Community College. Pictured with the recipient are Charles (right) and Judy (left) Thomas, who established the scholarship in 1997. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

APPEARED IN:

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 16

Local receives honors

These career-technical students representing Mississippi and East Central Community College in Decatur placed third in the Occupational Safety and Health competition at the SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference held in Kansas City, Missouri. From left are Reshelley Williams of Lake, Jessica Yarbrough of Louisville and James Hattaway of Union. The outstanding students advanced to the national contest by capturing first-place honors at the state contest. (Photo by Wayne Eason, ECCC dean of career-technical education)

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UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 16

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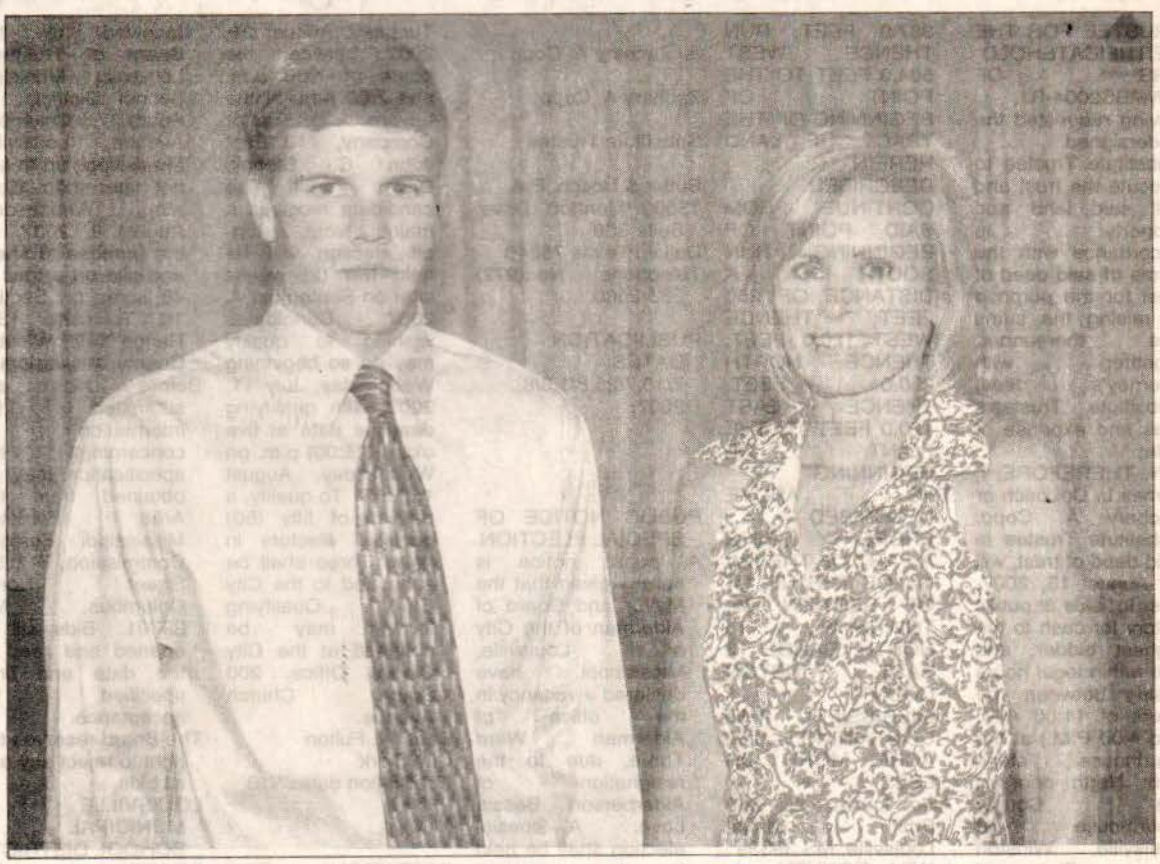
Graham receives Hudspeth Scholarship



Matthew Graham (left), a 2007 graduate of Louisville High School, is the recipient of the Hudspeth Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. This scholarship was established in 1998 by Mr. and Mrs. Henry B. "Bubba" Hudspeth. Mr. Hudspeth was a longtime member and former president of the ECCC Board of Trustees. Pictured with the recipient is Lanette Hanna, ECCC academic counselor. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria..

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 16

Sisson Receives Covington Scholarship

Kolby Sisson (left), a 2007 graduate of Noxapater High School, is the recipient of the W.R. Covington Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured with the recipient is ECCC academic counselor Lanette Hanna. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 16

Receives Mosal Scholarship

East Central Community College sophomore Delynn Agee, left, of Choctaw is the recipient of the 2007 Dr. Margaret Mosal Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship was endowed by the late Dr. Shelby Harris to honor Dr. Mosal, former executive director of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society of the two-year college. Pictured with the recipient is ECCC recruiter/Tech-Prep Career Center director Ramonica Evans. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

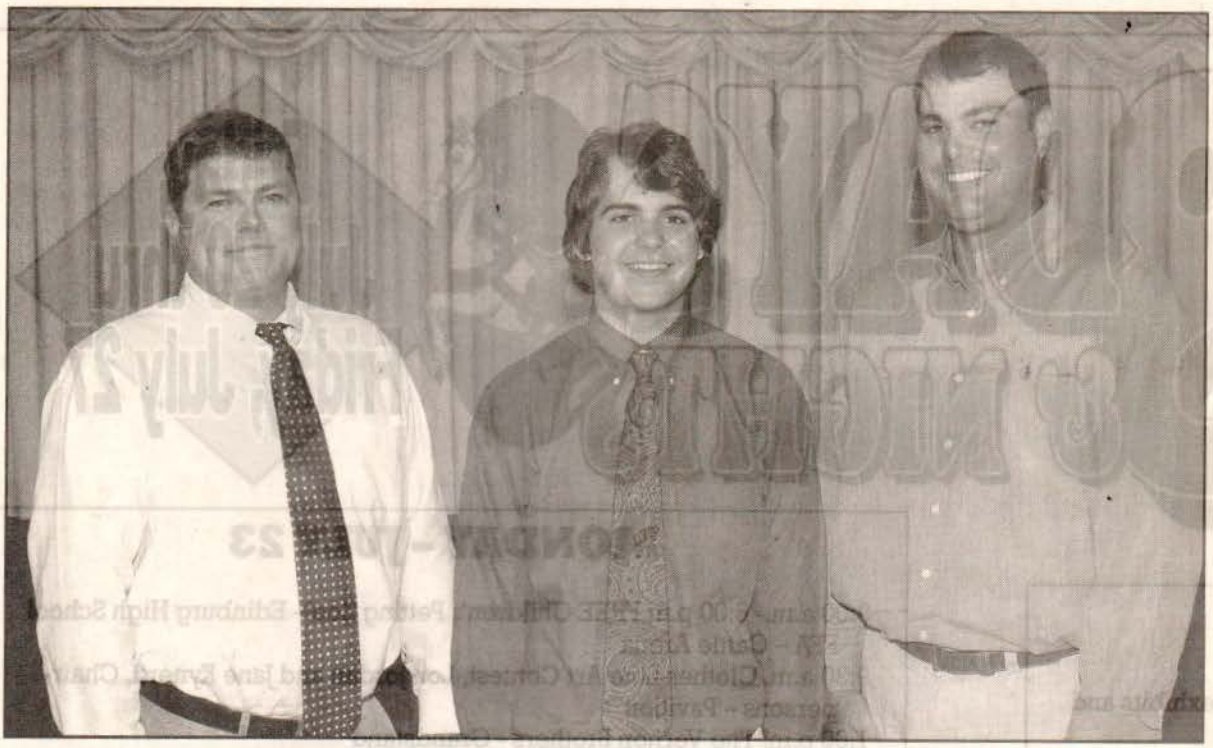
NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 16



Receives Sam Rush Memorial Scholarship

Casey Stokes, center, a 2007 graduate of Neshoba Central High School, is the recipient of the Sam Rush Memorial Scholarship at East Central Community College. The scholarship was established in 2000 by the Philadelphia Sertoma Club as part of their emphasis on education. Representing the donors are Mark Majure (left) and Joe Rush, Sam's father. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 16

Receives Thrash Memorial Scholarship

East Central Community College sophomore Julie Gaines, left, of Philadelphia is the recipient of the Thomas W. Thrash Memorial Scholarship, endowed in 2002 by the family and friends of the long-time ECCC instructor. Pictured with the recipient is Mr. Thrash's widow, Janette Thrash. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 16

Receives Brackeen Scholarship

Sophomore Sable Smith, center, of Philadelphia is the recipient of the Denver Brackeen Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established by his former players in 2005 to honor Brackeen's work in various capacities at the college. Representing the family are Brackeen's widow, Charlotte Brackeen (left), and his son, Morgan Brackeen. The award was presented during the college's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 16

Receives Boggan Scholarship

Neshoba Central High School graduate Spencer Dickerson, center, is the recipient of the 2007 Dr. Austin P. Boggan Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Boggan Scholarship was established in 1998 by family and friends of the longtime Decatur physician. Pictured with the recipient are Dr. Boggan's widow, Iris Boggan (left), and daughter-in-law Debbie Boggan. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 16

Receives Jones Scholarship

Loren Jones, left, of Philadelphia is the recipient of the 2007 Ronnie and Michelle Jones scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. This scholarship was endowed by the couple in 2006 for a graduate of Neshoba Central High School. Pictured with the recipient is Stacey Hollingsworth, ECCC executive director for Foundation and Alumni Relations. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 16

Receives Citizens Bank Scholarship

Anna Laurie Ezelle, center, a 2007 graduate of Union High School, is the recipient of the Citizens Bank of Philadelphia Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Representing the bank are Ashley Peebles (left) and Juane Kirkland. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 16

Collegians to perform

The Collegians, East Central Community College's rock-n-roll band, will present their annual Neshoba County Fair performance at 1 p.m. on Monday, July 23, at Founders' Square Pavilion. Also participating in the day's activities will be the ECCC Cheerleaders and the Centralettes, the dance-line for the Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching Band. The Collegians will also perform at 6 p.m. at the Grandstand prior to the Miss Neshoba County pageant. Collegian members include (front row, from left) technicians Jordan Gibbs of Morton and Dustin Gibbs of Conehatta; (second row, from left) vocalists Jessie Cochran of Decatur, Kelly Kight of Louisville, Aly Burton of Decatur and Jordan Taylor of Macon; and technicians Josh Talbert of Newton, Andrew Ladd of Philadelphia and Anthony Williams and Whitney Lott, both of Decatur; (third row, kneeling from left) vocalists Colby Amis of Decatur and Matt Jones of Philadelphia; and (top row, from left) wind and rhythm section members Brent Cumberland of Philadelphia, Ben Ingram of Carthage, Doug Kelley of Sebastopol and Drew Gillis of Decatur; Clanton Blaylock of Newton, Hillary Rieger of Pearl, Kimberly Bassett of Forest; and Caleb Frink and Kyle Barrett, both of Decatur. Thomas W. Carson serves as director and also plays guitar in the group.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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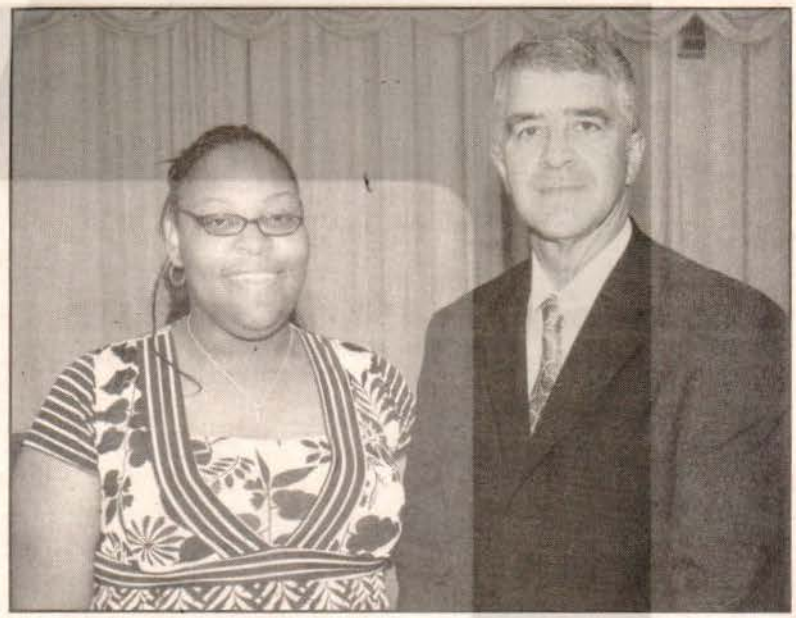
OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 23



Scholarship winner

Brittany Boler, left, a 2005 graduate of South Leake High School, is the recipient of the ATCO Loan Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established in 1995 by James McRae, right, of ATCO Loan in Carthage. The award was presented during the college's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

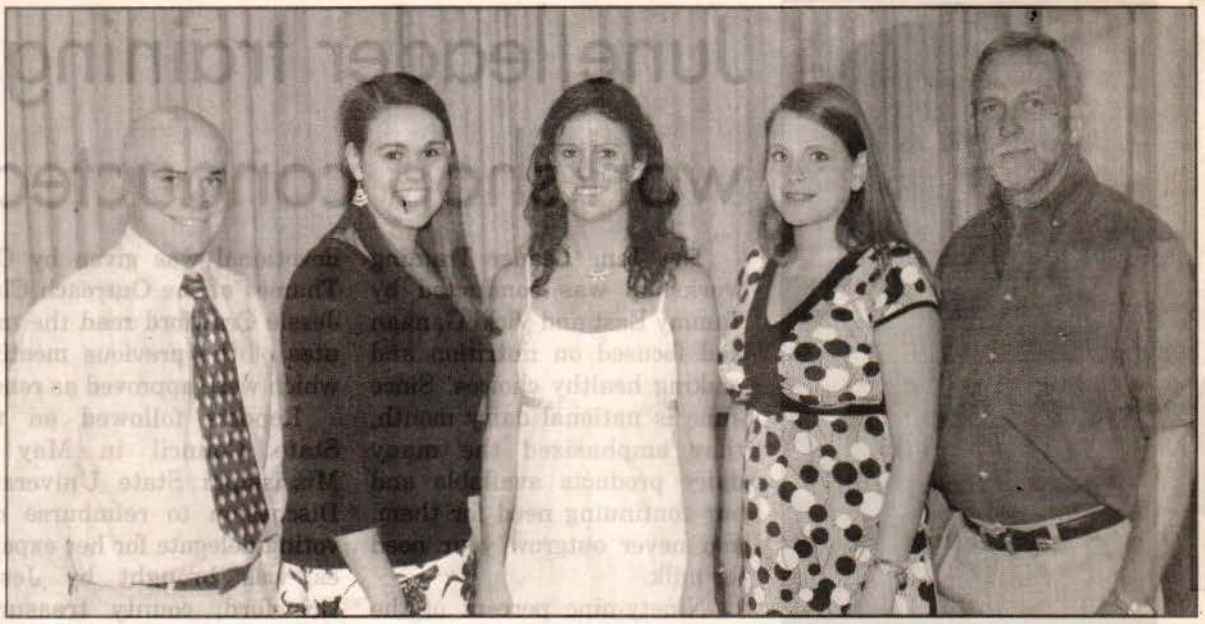
NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 23



MASS recipients

Recipients of the 2007 Mississippi Association of Supervisors Scholarships at East Central Community College in Decatur include (from left) Kylie Ming, Louisville High School, Emily Wooten, Carthage High School, Codee Russell, Leake Academy, and Georgia Johnson, Nanih Waiya High School. Representing the district supervisors is Joe Andy Helton, right, president of the Leake County Board of Supervisors. Awards were presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN √

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 23

Receives Smith Scholarship

Lindsay Lockert (left), a 2007 graduate of Morton High School, is the recipient of the Jay B. and Frances Harris Smith Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was endowed in the fall of 2002 in memory of Mr. Smith and in honor of Mrs. Smith. Pictured with the recipient is ECCC recruiter/Tech Prep Career Center director Ramonica Evans. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

Scholarships

WEEK OF July 23

RECEIVES HOLLINGSWORTH SCHOLARSHIP: Margie Black (center), a 2007 graduate of Lake High School, is the recipient of the Albert and Fannie Mae Hollingsworth Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured with the recipient is Fannie Mae Hollingsworth (right) and her daughter, Patricia Lowe (left). The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14 in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

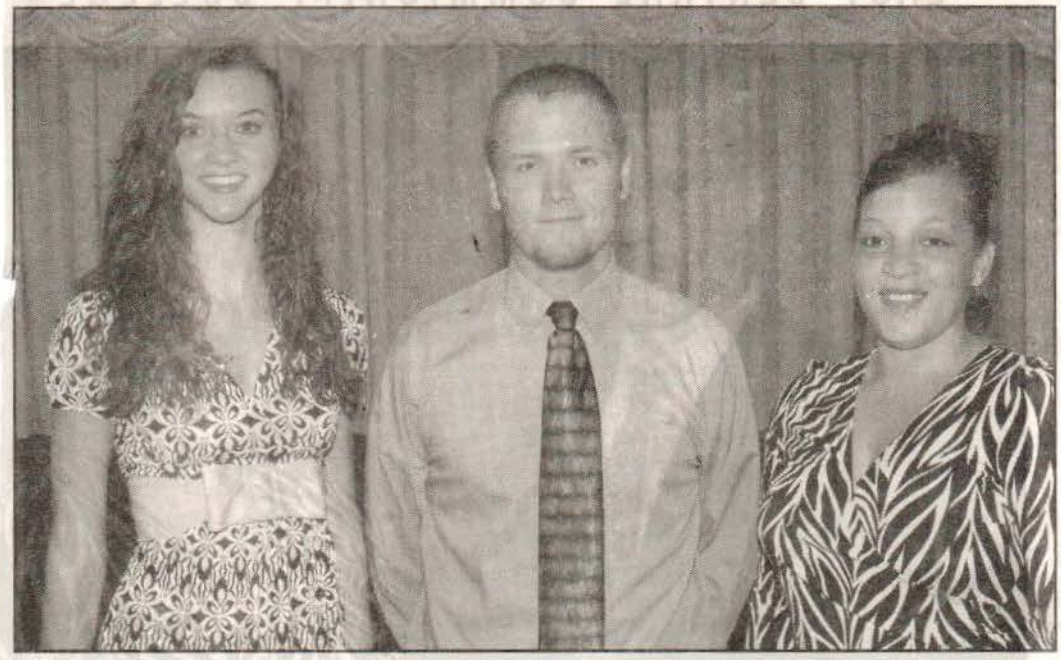
MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 23

ECCC



RECEIVE ROTARY SCHOLARSHIPS: Nicole Dunavant (left) and Brandon Williams (center), both 2007 graduates of Newton County High School, are the recipients of the Newton Rotary Scholarships at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured with the recipients is ECCC recruiter/Tech Prep Career Center director Ramonica Evans. The awards were presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 23

RECEIVE LA-Z-BOY SCHOLARSHIPS: Newton County High School graduate Callie Cumberland (second from left) and Union High School graduate Anna Johnson (third from left) are this year's recipients of the La-Z-Boy South Scholarships at East Central Community College in Decatur. Representing La-Z-Boy are Tom Keith (left) and Julie Rowzee. The awards were presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

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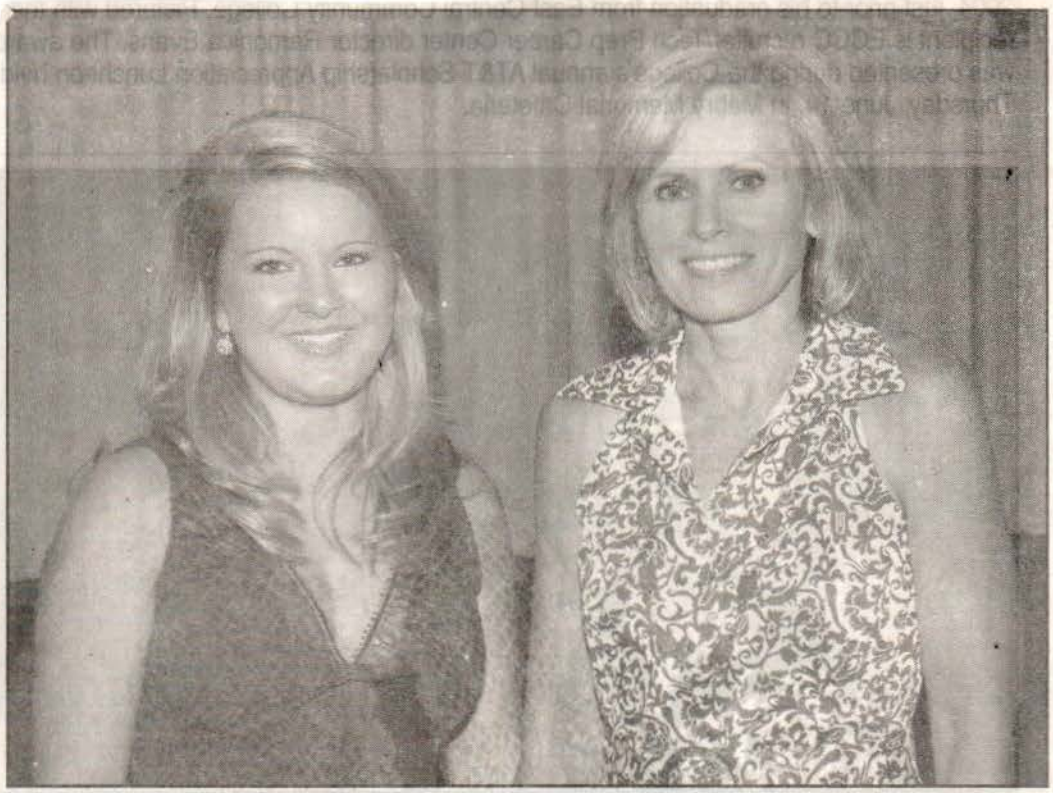
CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 23



RECEIVES PACE SCHOLARSHIP: Joy Hayes (left), 2007 graduate of Newton County High School, is the recipient of the Polk and Jennie Pace Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. This scholarship was established in 1997 by the family of Polk and Jennie Pace in memory of Mr. Lawrence Polk Pace, who attended EC in 1929. Pictured with the recipient is ECCC academic counselor Lanette Hanna. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 23

Receives Myers Scholarship

Autumn Durant, center, a 2007 graduate of Neshoba Central High School, is the recipient of the Ben Myers Memorial Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established in 1997 in memory of Ben Myers, a 1997 EC graduate and former Mr. East Central Community College. Pictured with the recipient are Ben's mother, Jewel Parks (left), and ECCC Student Services secretary Brenda Cheatham. The award was presented during the college's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

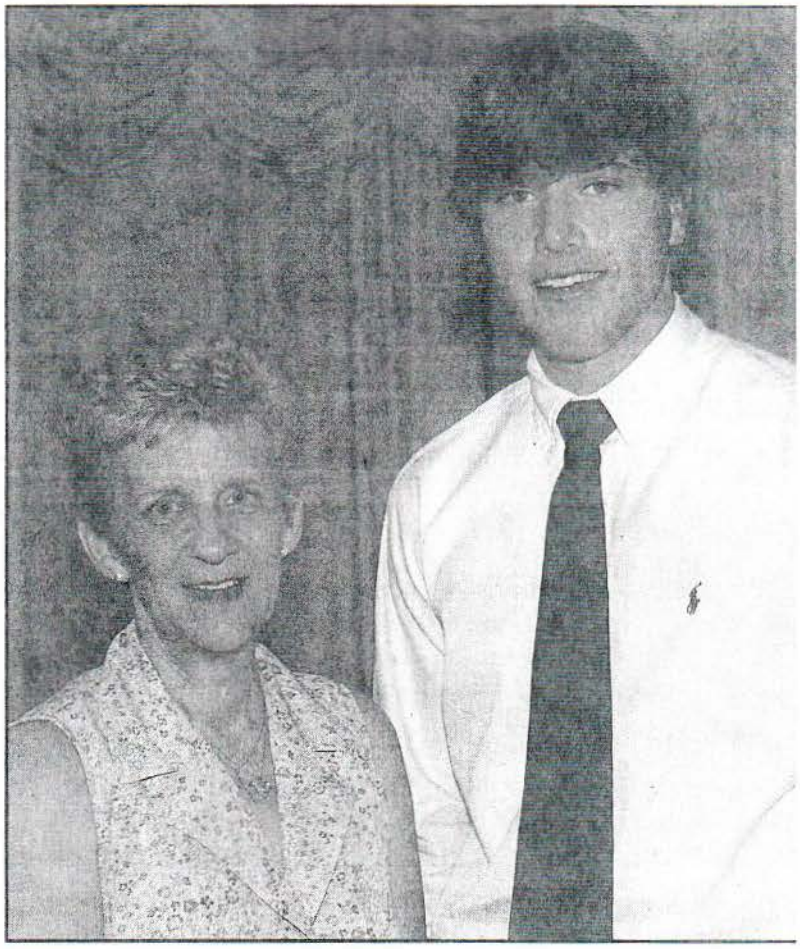
NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 23



Receives Ward Scholarship

Tyler Nicholson (right), a 2007 graduate of Neshoba Central High School, is the recipient of the Charles E. Ward Memorial Scholarship at East Central Community College. The scholarship was established in 2003 by Mr. Ward's widow, Gail Ward (left), and their three sons, Roger, Mike and David Ward. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 23

Receives Vowell Scholarship

Rachel Smith, left, a 2007 graduate of Neshoba Central High School, is the recipient of the Lavern and Elizabeth Vowell Memorial Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established in 1993 by the couple's children. Pictured with the recipient is ECCC recruiter/Tech Prep Career Center director Ramonica Evans. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

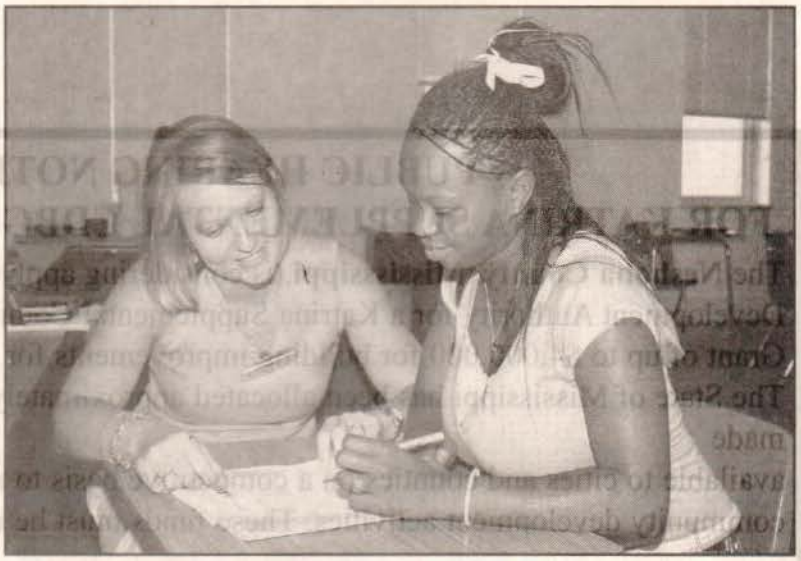
MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 23

The Neshoba Democrat, Philadelphia, Miss., July 25, 2007, 11A



Slaughter attends ECCC orientation

Neshoba Central High School graduate Chiquita Slaughter (right) was among area students who attended the June 28 orientation session held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Slaughter is shown with Betsy Mann, an instructor in the college's Associate Degree Nursing Program, who is providing assistance in planning the incoming freshman's fall semester class schedule. An additional orientation sessions for new and transfer students is scheduled Friday, Aug. 10. Fall classes begin Thursday, August 16. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address isjkillens@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 23

ECCC

CAPTURE NATIONAL SKILLS USA AWARDS: Winning third-place honors in the Promotional Bulletin Board competition at the SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference were the above career-technical students representing Mississippi and East Central Community College in Decatur. From left are Lourie Mowdy of Hickory and Sha Parker of Little Rock, who advanced to the national contest in Kansas City, Missouri, by capturing first-place honors at state competition. (Photo by Wayne Eason, ECCC dean of career-technical education)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

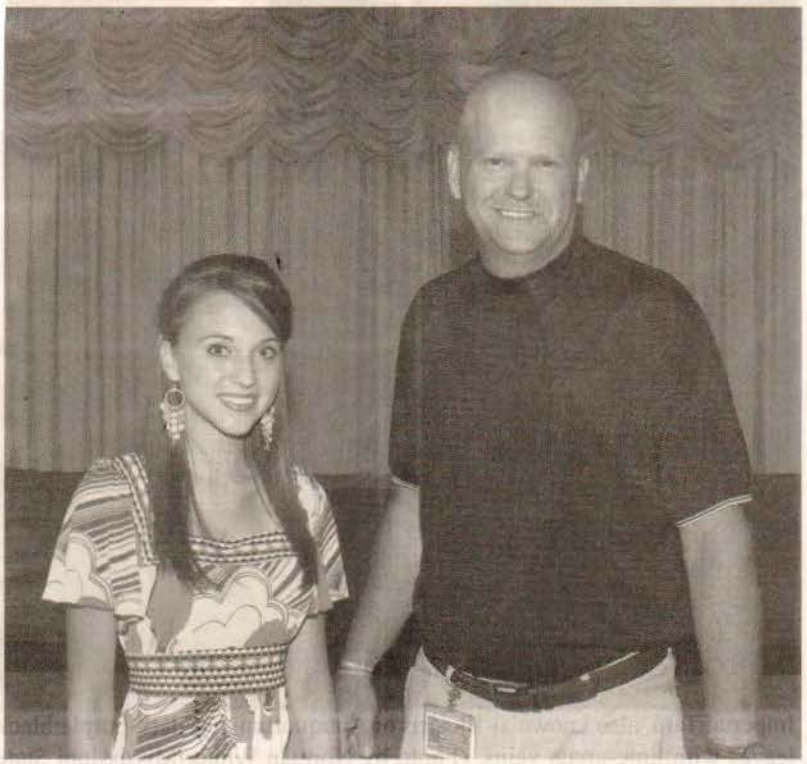
NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 23



Receive Mayes Scholarship

Jana Johnson (left) of Morton is this year's recipient of the Thomas Rudolph Mayes Scholarship at East Central Community College. Established in 1998, the scholarship honors the memory of Mr. Mayes, who served 28 years as an English instructor at the College. Pictured with the scholarship recipient is Joe Killens, vice president for student services. The award was presented at the 2007 AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held on the Decatur campus. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 23

, 2007

Receives Arts Council Scholarship
Sophomore Leslie Nash of (left) of Union is the recipient of the 2007 Philadelphia/Neshoba County Arts Council Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured with the recipient is ECCC academic counselor Lanette Hanna. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 23

Receives Clayton Blount Scholarship
Amber Smith (left), a 2007 graduate of Union High School, is the recipient of the Clayton Blount Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Representing the donors is Lois Blount Cooper (right). The scholarship was established in honor of Coach Blount in 1995 by his former players. During his employment at ECCC from 1953 to 1970, Blount served in various capacities including physical education teacher, coach, dean of men and athletic director. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 23

Receives Hitt Scholarship
Brooke Dove (second from left), a 2007 graduate of Sebastopol High School, is the recipient of the Jeff and Kathy Hitt Memorial Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Established by family members in 2003, this scholarship honors the memory of Jeff, who was serving as Work-Based Learning Coordinator at ECCC at the time of his death, and his sister Kathy, who was an adolescent at the time of her death. Also pictured are Hitt's daughter, Gillian (pictured in front), his mother Gerladine Hitt (left), mother-in-law Faye Henley (third from left) and grandmother Eunice Dickerson (right).

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓ _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

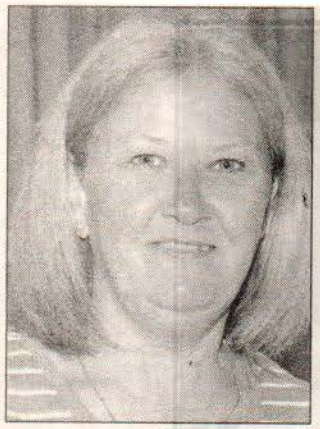
NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

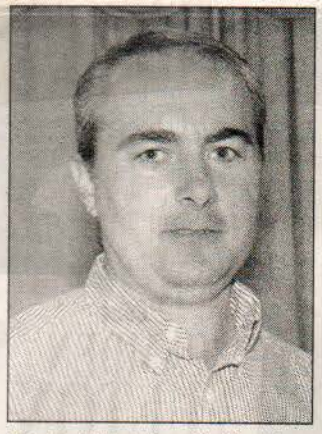
CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 23



Doris Frith (left) of Decatur is the 2007 recipient of the Edwin and Marie Lowe Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established in 2002 by the children of the Lowes in honor of their life and work.



Kevin Ethridge (left) of Little Rock is the recipient of the East Central Community College New Directions Scholarship, which was established for a non-traditional student.

Amanda Hines (left), a 2007 graduate of Newton County Academy, is the recipient of the William Wade Long Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Dwight and Gail (right) Long endowed the scholarship in 2006 in memory of their son.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

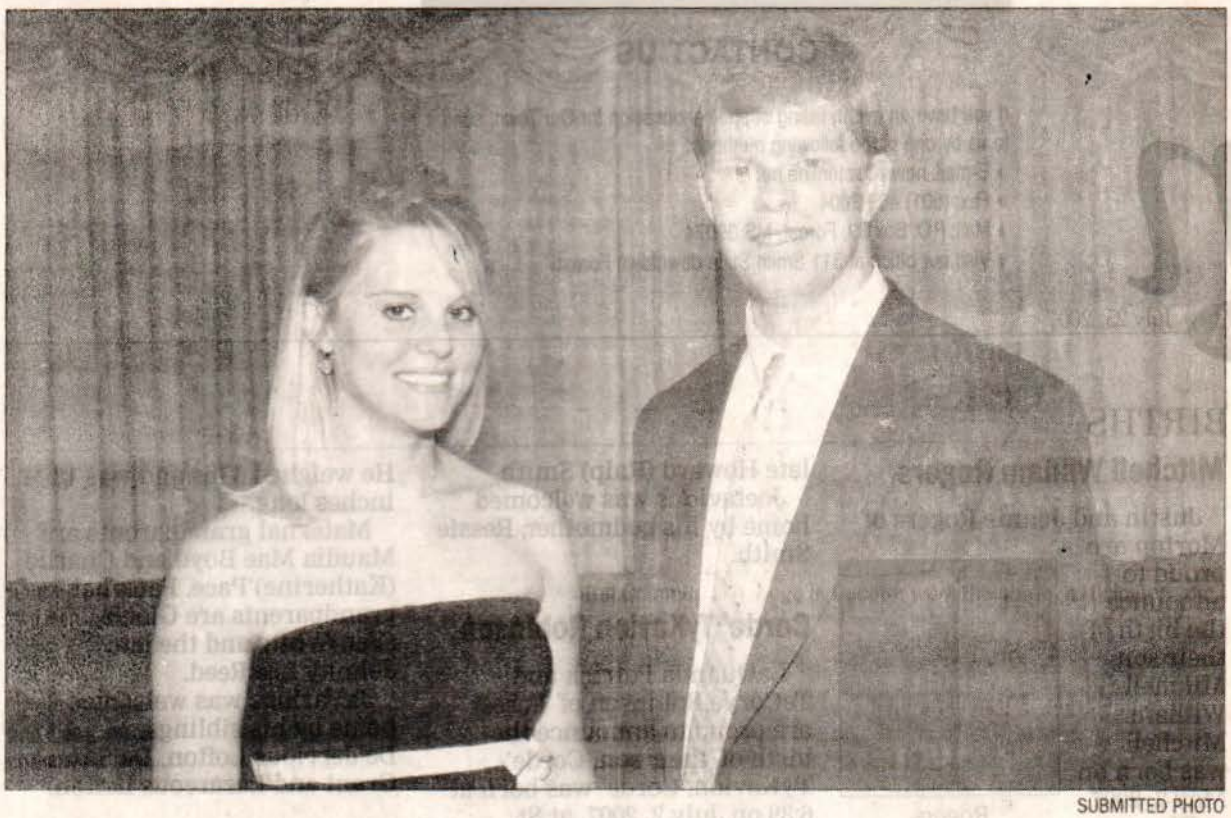
NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 23



SUBMITTED PHOTO

CUSHMAN RECEIVES BANK OF FOREST SCHOLARSHIP

Brittany Cushman (left), a 2007 graduate of Scott Central High School, is the recipient of the Bank of Forest Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. She is pictured with bank representative Drew Kenna. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 23

ECCC

RECEIVES PHILLIPS SCHOLARSHIP: Sophomore Sarah Eakes, a graduate of Newton County High School, is the 2007 recipient of the Charles P. and Bonnie Saxon Phillips Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. This scholarship was established in 2005 by Mr. and Mrs. Phillips and was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Pictured with the recipient is ECCC recruiter/Tech Prep Career Center director Ramonica Evans.

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 23

ECCC

RECEIVES STATE FARM INSURANCE SCHOLARSHIP: Sarah Lathem (center) of Decatur is the recipient of the 2007 State Farm Insurance Company Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship, established specifically for non-traditional students, was initiated in 1999 through gifts from individual agents and was matched by the State Farm Companies Foundation. Representing the donors are agent Sam Nowell and his wife, June, of Philadelphia. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 23

EAST CENTRAL COMMIUNITY COLLEGE

RECEIVES TODD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP: Jonathan Federick, a 2007 graduate of Newton County High School, is the recipient of the Dustan Todd Memorial Scholarship at East Central Community College. Established by family members in 2006, the scholarship honors the memory of Dustan Todd, who was killed in a motorcycle accident on April 28, 2004, just prior to his graduation from East Central Community College. Pictured with the recipient is ECCC recruiter/Tech Prep Career Center director Ramonica Evans. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 30

ECCC enrollment nears 1900 students

Enrollment continues to climb at East Central Community College as 134 students registered for fall classes by attending the July 18 orientation session, announced Joe Killens, vice president for student services.

Killens said enrollment stands at 1864 for the fall term, which begins Thursday, August 16. An additional orientation session will be held Friday, August 10. Killens said students who are unable to attend the session should contact Student Services to schedule an appointment.

Students who attended the July 16 session and their respective high schools and hometowns included the following:

Gulfport High School: Eric Matthews Holmes, Louisville;

Louisville High School: Stuart Lamar Hall, Jalysa Shalonda Hardin, Kentareas M. Howard, Akenia Adriana Moore, Gloria Jean Moore, Denitra Tierra Murff, Chiquitta L. Nicholson, Jeremy J. Stewart, Kyle M. Weeks, Jessica Marie White and Mallory Jade Young, all of Louisville;

Noxapater High School: Latoria Charlette Ball and Jerlisa Nashay Williams, both of Louisville; and James Bruce Files and Bradley Scott Reynolds, both of Noxapater;

Sebastopol Attendance Center: Cody Wayne Espinoza, Louisville;

Also attending were Katina Ashley Holmes, Candace Hunt and Branden Donte Wooten, all of Louisville; and, Jeremy Deshuan Thomas, Noxapater.

For more information contact Phone 601-635-2111.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 30

RNAL

www.winstoncountyjournal.com

White ready to begin ECCC experience

EC PHOTO

Jessica White (left) of Louisville is shown planning her fall semester class schedule while attending orientation activities held July 18 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Providing assistance to the Louisville High School graduate is Student Services staff member Marci Pinson. A final orientation session is scheduled Friday, August 10. Fall classes begin Thursday, August 16. For more information contact Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 30

RECEIVES EUBANKS KALJYC-PEERS SCHOLARSHIP: Sophomore Dru Anderson, graduate of Newton County High School, is the 2007 recipient of the Leon Eubank KALJYC-Peers Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The award is presented each year to the incoming Student Body Association president. Pictured with the recipient is ECCC recruiter/Tech Prep Career Center director Ramonica Evans. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 30

RECEIVES LOWE SCHOLARSHIP: Doris Frith (left) of Decatur is the 2007 recipient of the Edwin and Marie Lowe Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established in 2002 by the children of the Lowes in honor of their life and work. Representing the donors is Mary Hanson. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 30

RECEIVES LAND SCHOLARSHIP: Megan Munn (left), a 2007 graduate of Newton County High School, is the recipient of the James E. Land Memorial Scholarship to attend East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established in 2003 by Dr. Harold Aycock in memory of James E. Land, a longtime professional educator, photographer and supporter of East Central. At right is ECCC academic counselor Michael Alexander.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 30

RECEIVES LONG SCHOLARSHIP: Amanda Hines (left), a 2007 graduate of Newton County Academy, is the recipient of the William Wade Long Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Dwight and Gail (right) Long endowed the scholarship in 2006 in memory of their son. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 30

ECCC PHOTO

RECEIVES HANNAH SCHOLARSHIP

Caitlin Slay (left) of Forest, a 2007 graduate of East Rankin Academy, is the recipient of the R.O. and Bertha Hannah Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. This scholarship was established in 1991 by the four sons of R.O. and Bertha Hannah, all of whom attended East Central. The recipient is pictured with ECCC recruiter/Tech Prep Career Center director Ramonica Evans. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 30

ECCC PHOTO

RECEIVES THOMAS EC SCHOLARS SCHOLARSHIP

Lake High School graduate Courtney Gamil (left) is the 2007 recipient of the James and Luvie Thomas EC Scholars Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Established by the College in 1999, individuals, businesses or groups can supply these scholarships, presented to students who are in the top 10 percent of their class. Pictured with the recipient is Stacey Hollingsworth, ECCC executive director for Foundation and Alumni Relations. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 30

ECCC PHOTO

RECEIVES WILKERSON SCHOLARSHIP

Sophomore Bethany Taylor (hird from left) of Lake is the recipient of the 2007 Bob Wilkerson Memorial Vo-Tech Scholarship at East Central Community College i Decatur. Pictured with the recipient are her mother, Lisa W. Taylor (left), and grandfather, David Weems (second from left), and Pats and Robert Wilkerson (at right), who established the scholarship in 2003 in memory of their son, Bob, a graduate of Forest High School. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 30

RECEIVES VINCENT SCHOLARSHIP: Candi Vance (left), a 2007 graduate of Newton County High School, is the recipient of the Arno and Ruth Carr Vincent Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established in 1999 in recognition of the former President and First Lady of the College who served from 1953-1962. Pictured with the recipient is ECCC academic counselor Lanette Hanna. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14 in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

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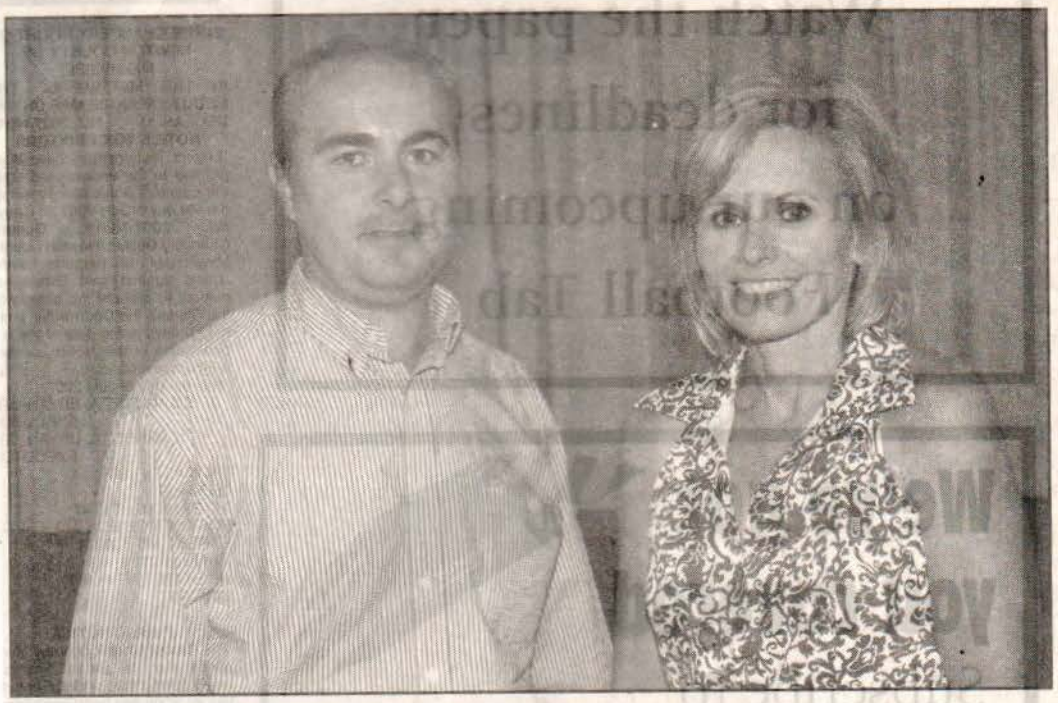
CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 30



RECEIVES NEW DIRECTIONS SCHOLARSHIPS: Kevin Ethridge (left) of Little Rock is the recipient of the East Central Community College New Directions Scholarship, which was established for a non-traditional student. Pictured with the recipient is ECCC academic counselor Lanette Hanna. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 30

RECEIVES HUMMEL SCHOLARSHIP: Sophomore Kyle Barrett (left) is the recipient of the 2007 Martha Kate Tullos Hummel scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. This scholarship was endowed by Mrs. Hummel's husband, Don (pictured at right), and their sons in 2006. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON

CLARION-LEDGER

OTHER

WEEK OF July 30

Harrison said she began her GED journey in 2003 by enrolling in night classes. When it was time to take the GED exam, she passed every subject but math.

"I was so disappointed," she stated. "All I needed was 20 more points."

Harrison returned to school but missed half the class meetings. She took the test a few more times but again was disappointed in the results and decided to take a year off, which she admits was a mistake.

"Everything I had learned from before was gone...but after studying really hard I did much better on the exam in 2005. All I needed was 10 more points to pass, and again I was so frustrated that I had thought about not going back," she recalled.

But Harrison said she was determined to reach her goal and gave credit to her family - especially her grandchildren- and friends with providing the inspiration to succeed. She also thanked her teachers - Janice Green, Janice Hunter and the late Jean Landers "for believing in me when I did not believe in myself."

"Although Mrs. Landers is not with us anymore," Harrison said, "I can hear her say, 'Teresa, I knew you could do it!'"

She concluded her remarks by referring to her GED diploma as a "major achievement in my life. I'm living my dream and you can, too."

Harrison said she hopes to continue her education by enrolling in classes at ECCC.

Harrison was joined at the podium by Jackson attorney Jonathan Bullock who was the guest speaker.

Bullock, 33, dropped out of high school at age 18. After working several labor intensive jobs for minimum wage pay, Bullock returned to school and received his GED diploma in 1991.

He continued his education at Hinds Community College and Mississippi State University and studied law at the Mississippi College School of Law and the University of Tulsa College of Law, where he received his Juris Doctorate in 2003.

Bullock, who noted that his road to success also includes eight years of military service, praised the graduates for their accomplishment and also urged them to encourage others who do not have high school diplomas to enroll in a GED program and better their lives.

"I made many mistakes when I was younger and I was unable to finish my high school education," Bullock stated. "But I realized that - although it would be difficult- I could go back to school, get my GED diploma and still pursue my dream of becoming an attorney."

Bullock noted that he is now in position to "give back" to those who need encouragement, inspiration and guidance in following their own goals and dreams.

"It is rewarding for me to be able to help others in this regard, and I feel honored that others look at my hard work and dedication in getting an education as an example of what can happen when you create goals and then pursue and achieve those goals."

He concluded his remarks to the graduates by stressing what he calls are the three "P's:" Passion, Plan and Persistence.

Recent GED graduate Teresa Harrison (left) of McCool visits with Jackson attorney Jonathan Bullock (center) and Gene Davis, dean of adult and continuing education at East Central Community College, following the College's 11th annual GED commencement held on the Decatur campus. Harrison, 52, gave her testimonial during the special program which also featured remarks by Bullock, who is also a GED graduate.

"You need to have passion - the desire to be something; you must have a plan to reach your goal; and you need to be persistent to get where you need to be. Hard work really does pay off. So I encourage each of you to think big and dream big, because the sky really is the limit!"

A fourth generation attorney, Bullock specializes in civil litigation defense as a member of firm Shell Buford, PLLC in Jackson.

He is also involved in various civic organizations and donates numerous hours toward voluntary endeavors, including his service as a member of the Mississippi Department of Education's Drop-Out Prevention Task Force Committee.

ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin presented diplomas to the graduates, who also included Samantha Kaitlin Leigh Kinard, Noxapater; Jody E. Garrard and Angela Martin, both of Louisville; and Sheronda Martin, Preston.

Also participating in the program were Dr. Lavinia Sparkman, vice president for instruction; Gene Davis, dean of adult and continuing education; ECCC music instructor Len Bobo, processional music; ABE/GED instructor Larry Harms, invocation; Lisa Willis Williams, soloist; and ABE/GED instructor Bryan Burt, benediction.

For information on the College's ABE/GED program contact the Office of Adult and Continuing Education, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 279. The email address is gdavis@eccc.edu.

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

'Determined' grandmother receives GED diploma at 52

When she completed the seventh grade in 1969, Teresa Harrison thought she "knew it all," so she quit school.

The 52-year-old grandmother from McCool admitted 38 years later that she really "did not have a clue" to the real meaning of an education until she recently received her GED (General Educational Development) diploma.

Harrison provided her testimonial during the annual GED Graduation ceremony held July 17 at East Central Community College in Decatur. She was one of 45 graduates honored at the special event, coordinated by the Office of Adult and Continuing Education.

"Without an education, you're not going to get far in life," Harrison told a packed Huff Auditorium. "It took a long time to get my GED and I thought about quitting classes several times. But all my hard work would have been for nothing, and I knew that if I quit I would be setting a bad example for my grandchildren and I just couldn't do that! I did not give up on my dream...and I urge others not to give up...no matter how old you are or how many times you have to take the test!"

Winston Countians Receiving GED Diplomas

These Winston County residents received their high school equivalency diplomas at the 11th annual GED (General Educational Development) Graduation held July 17 at East Central Community College in Decatur. From left are Teresa Harrison, McCool; Sheronda Martin, Preston; and Angela Martin and Jody E. Garrard, both of Louisville. ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin presented diplomas to 45 graduates during the special program. Adult Basic Education and GED Preparation classes are provided through the College's Office of Adult and Continuing Education. Classes are held at various locations in the ECCC district, which includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties. For more information contact the Office of Adult and Continuing Education, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 279. The email address is gdavis@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

July 30

ECCC evening class registration begins

From press reports

Registration for evening classes offered for the 2007 fall semester by East Central Community College gets underway Monday, August 6 on the Decatur campus.

Activities begin at 6 p.m. in the Eddie M. Smith Student Union.

Course offerings include Leadership (Adult), Principles of Accounting I, Human Growth and Development, College Algebra, Music Appreciation, Atypical Child, General Biology II and Lab, Fundamentals of Data Communications, Cobol Programming, Legal Environment of Business, Applied Business Math, Intro to Criminal Justice, Principles of Economics I, English Composition I, World Geography, Personal and Community Health, Baseball Theory, New Testament Survey, Oral Communication, Principles of Accounting II, Microcomputer Applications, American Literature I, American History I, Trigonometry, Principles of Accounting II, Microcomputer Applications, Student Teaching I, Emergency Medical Technician, Soils and Lab, Human Anatomy and Physiology I and Lab, Microbiology and Lab, General Chemistry I and Lab, Network Administration Using Linux, Programming Development, Art Appreciation, Computers and Art, Criminal Investigation I, Principles of CAD, English Composition II, Basketball Theory, Intermediate Algebra, American National Government, Visual Basic Programming, Physical Science Survey I and Lab, Ceramics I, Ceramics II, Internship in

FOREST-SCOTT COUNTY CAREER & TECHNOLOGY CENTER

Registration for evening classes offered at the Forest-Scott County Career and Technology Center will be held at 6 p.m. Wednesday, August 8.

Course offerings include Principles of Accounting I, Human Growth and Development, English Composition I, General Psychology, English Composition I, Oral Communication, American Literature I, American History I and Introduction to Sociology.

LEAKE COUNTY VOCATIONAL CENTER

Registration for evening classes offered at the Leake County Vocational Center in Carthage will be held at 6 p.m. Tuesday, August 7.

Course offerings include English Composition I, American Literature I, Nutrition, American Literature II, General Psychology, College Algebra, English Composition II and American History I.

PHILADELPHIA-NESHOBA COUNTY CAREER-TECHNICAL CENTER

Registration for evening classes offered at the Philadelphia-Neshoba County Career-Technical Center will be held at 6 p.m. Tuesday, August 7.

Course offerings include College Study Skills, American History I, American National Government, Principles of Accounting II, Principles of Economics II, English Composition I, Elementary Spanish I, General Psychology, Personal and Community Health, Oral Communication, Intermediate Algebra, College Algebra, Developmental Reading I (Remedial) and Introduction to Sociology.

Criminal Justice, Human Growth and Development, First Aid, General Psychology, Intro to Computer Concepts, Introduction to Sociology, General Biology and Lab, Dendrology and Lab, Human Anatomy and Physiology II and Lab, Operating Platforms, Advanced CAD and American History II.

Evening classes are also offered at various locations in the College's five-country district, according to the following schedule:

CHOCTAW RESERVATION

Registration for evening classes offered at the Choctaw Hospitality Institute in Choctaw will be held at 6 p.m. Thursday, August 9.

Course offerings include Development English I, Developmental Reading I (Remedial), Elementary Algebra, Introduction to Criminal Justice, Intermediate Algebra, College Algebra, Music Appreciation, Developmental English II, Introduction to Sociology, English Composition I, American History II, Human Growth and Development, and World Civilization I.

WINSTON-LOUISVILLE VOCATIONAL COMPLEX

Registration for evening classes offered at the Winston-Louisville Vocational Complex will be held at 6 p.m. Wednesday, August 8.

Course offerings include College Algebra, Finite Mathematics, American National Government, Business Statistics, World Civilization I, Intermediate Algebra, American History I, General Psychology, Oral Communication, English Composition I and Trigonometry.

All evening classes begin the week of August 20.

The deadline to register for evening and day classes is Friday, August 31.

For more information please contact the Office of Admissions, Records and Research, East Central Community College, Decatur, MS, 39327, Phone 601-63-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 206. The email address is dluke@eccc.edu.

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

WEEK OF July 30

Countians receive GED diplomas

Five residents of Leake County received their high school equivalency diplomas at the 11th annual General Educational Development graduation at East Central Community College, including, from left, front, Lachelle Moss and Jeana Rose Ingram, both of Carthage; back, William Randall McNeill, Walnut Grove, and Gary Massey and Mecedric Cortez Kirkland, both of Carthage.

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

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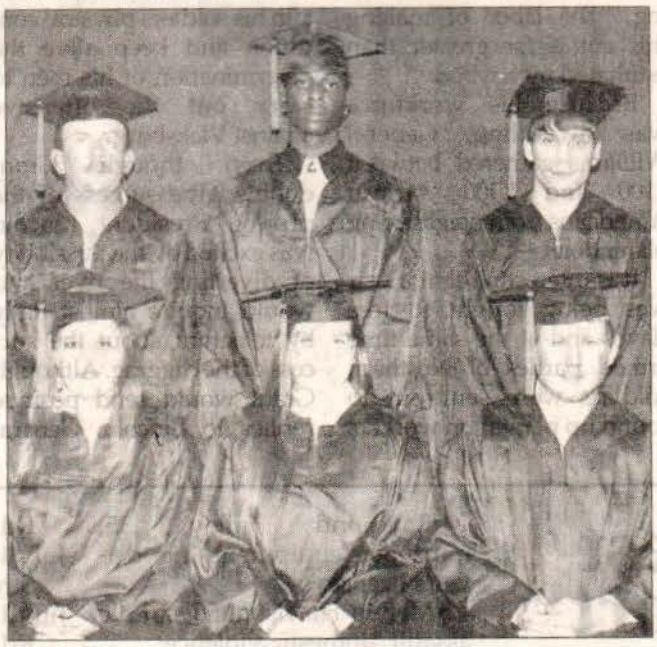
OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 30



Newton Countians Receiving GED Diplomas... These Newton County residents received their high school equivalency diplomas at the 11th annual GED (General Educational Development) Graduation held July 17 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured are (seated from left) Keli Jo Barrett and Mary Rose Hickox, both of Decatur; and Michael Louis Averett, Union; and (standing from left) Tommy Dewayne Perkins, Conehatta; Deshawn Curlin Montral, Hickory; and Richard Louis Horton, Union. ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin presented diplomas to 45 graduates during the special program. Adult Basic Education and GED Preparation classes are provided through the College's Office of Adult and Continuing Education. Classes are held at various locations in the ECCC district, which includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties. For more information call the Office of Adult and Continuing Education, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 279. The email address is gdavis@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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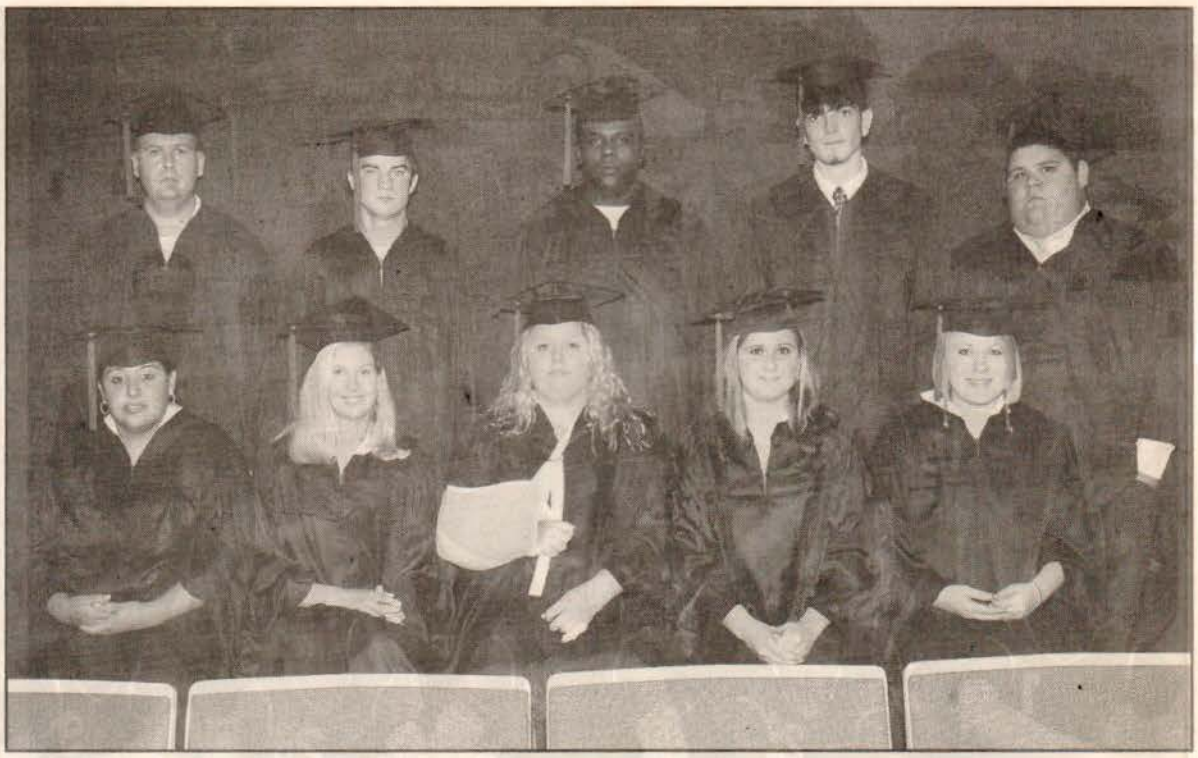
OTHER _____

WEEK OF July 30



Neshoba countians receiving GED diplomas

These Neshoba County residents received their high school equivalency diplomas at the 11th annual GED (General Educational Development) Graduation held July 17 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured are (seated from left) Ering Marie Shearin, Choctaw; Stacie Lynn Miles, Samantha Kaitlin Leigh Kinard, Noxapater; Whitney Sierra Walton, Union; and Tasha Bounds, Philadelphia, and (standing from left) Brian Thomas Chandler, Justin Dickerson, and Rodriquez K. Gavin, all of Philadelphia; Brandon Scott George, Union; and Bronson Lane Tubby, Philadelphia. ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin presented diplomas to 45 graduates during the special program. Adult Basic Education and GED Preparation classes are provided through the College's Office of Adult and Continuing Education. Classes are held at various locations in the ECCC district, which includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties. For more information call the Office of Adult and Continuing Education, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 279. The email address is gdavis@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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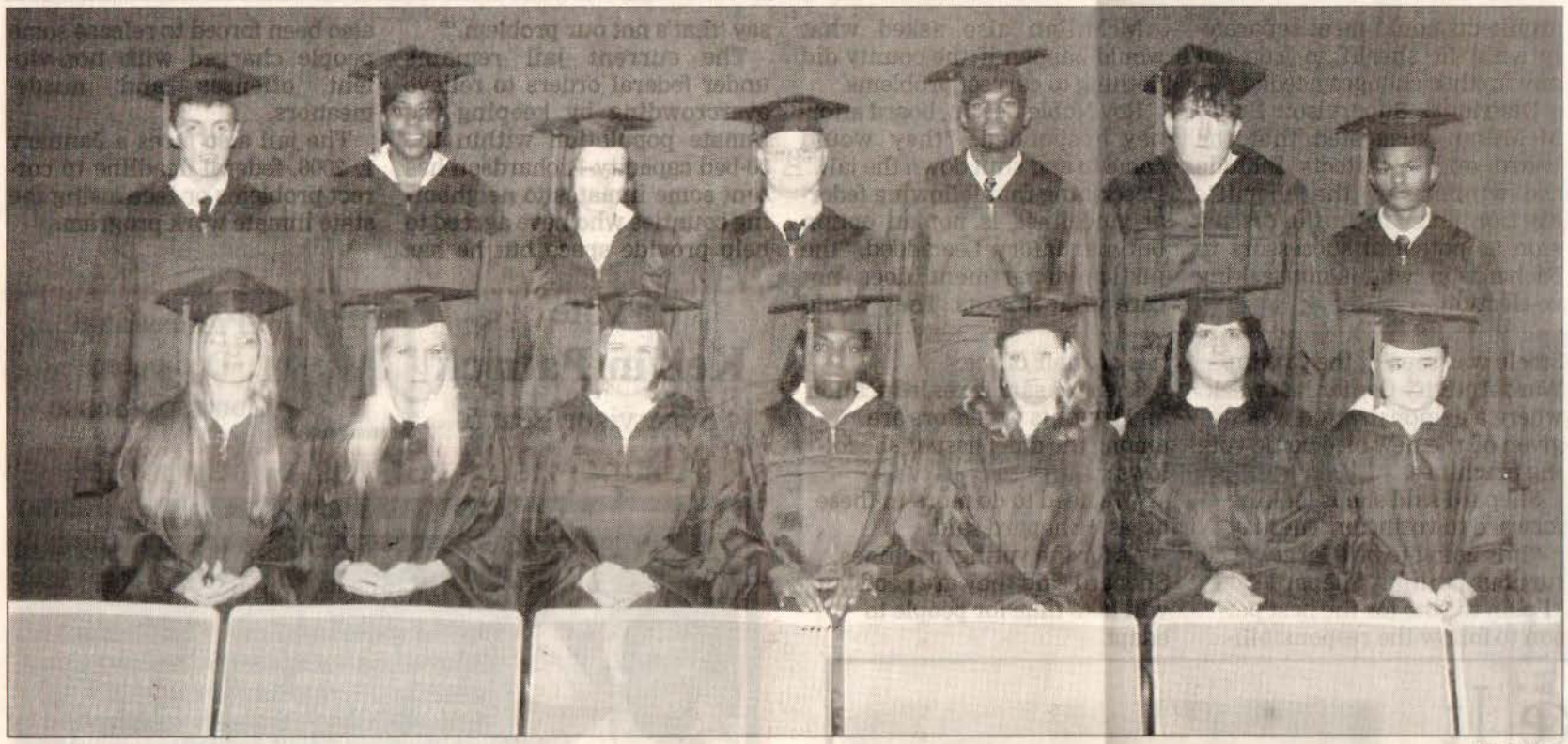

ECCC PHOTO

SCOTT COUNTIANS RECEIVING GED DIPLOMAS

These Scott County residents received their high school equivalency diplomas at the 11th annual GED (General Educational Development) Graduation held July 17 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured are (seated from left) Rebecca Dianne Jolly and Crystal Allen, both Morton; Ruby A. Johnson, Pulaski; Betyna Gage, Forest; Kayla Renea Craig, Pelahatchie; Elizabeth Yates, Walnut Grove; and Amy Kyzar, Morton; and (standing from left) Joshua A. Dunnavant, Morton; Selinea Yvette Harper, Forest; and Jerri Settlemire, Christopher Wilkerson, Johnathan Tyrone Pace, Brandon King and Donald Natha Patrick, all of Morton. ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin presented diplomas to 45 graduates during the special program. Adult Basic Education and GED Preparation classes are provided through the College's Office of Adult and Continuing Education. Classes are held at various locations in the ECCC district, which includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties. For more information contact the Office of Adult and Continuing Education, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 279. The email address is gdavis@eccc.edu.

WEEK OF Friday 30

OTHER

SPIRIT OF MORTON

WEEK OF Aug. 6

Receive Merchants and Farmers Bank Scholarships

Deandra Graham (left), a 2007 graduate of Philadelphia High School, and Tyler Hansford (center), a 2007 graduate of Union High School, are the recipients of the Merchants and Farmers Bank Scholarships at East Central Community College in Decatur. These scholarships were established in 1998 and are awarded two Neshoba County seniors. The awards were presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

APPEARED IN:

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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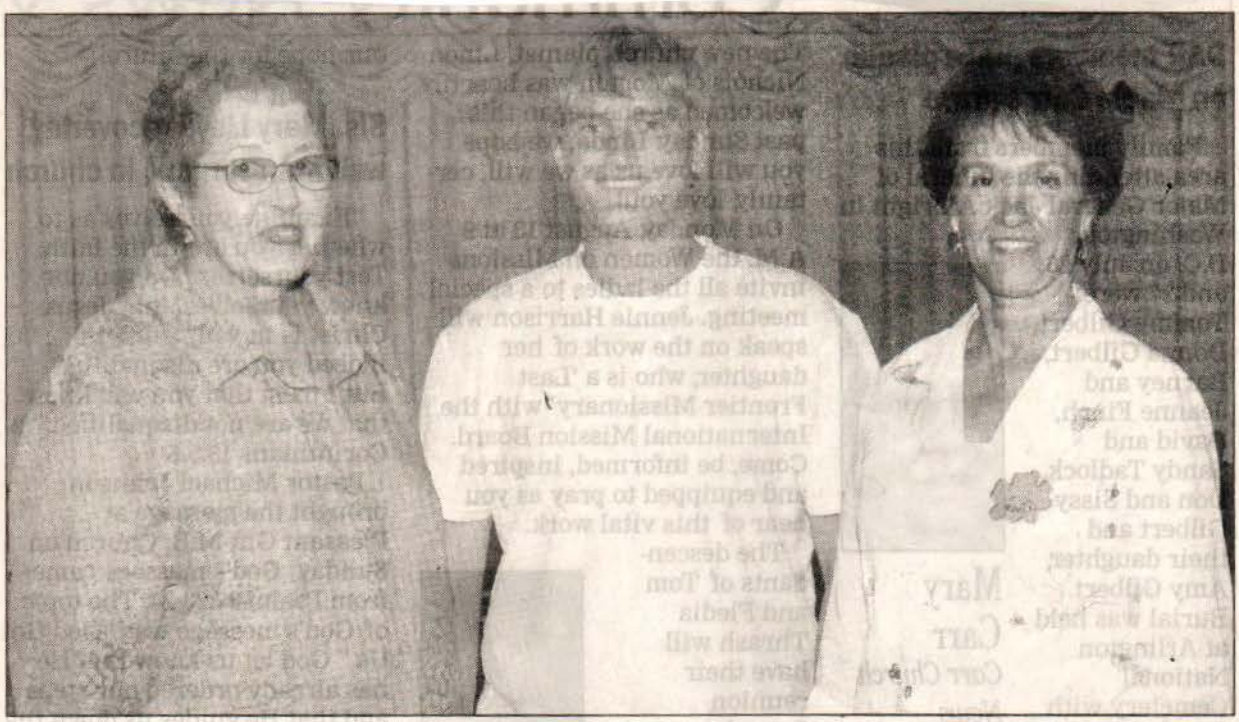

ECCC PHOTO

CIEGLO RECEIVES SIGREST SCHOLARSHIP

Sophomore Joseph Ciegio of Lake (center), a 2006 graduate of Forest High School, is the recipient of the Elva Smith Sigrest Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was endowed by family members in the fall of 2006 in memory of Mrs. Sigrest. Representing the donors are Mrs. Sigrest's daughters Ann Williams (left) and Betty Bustin. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

APPEARED IN:

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UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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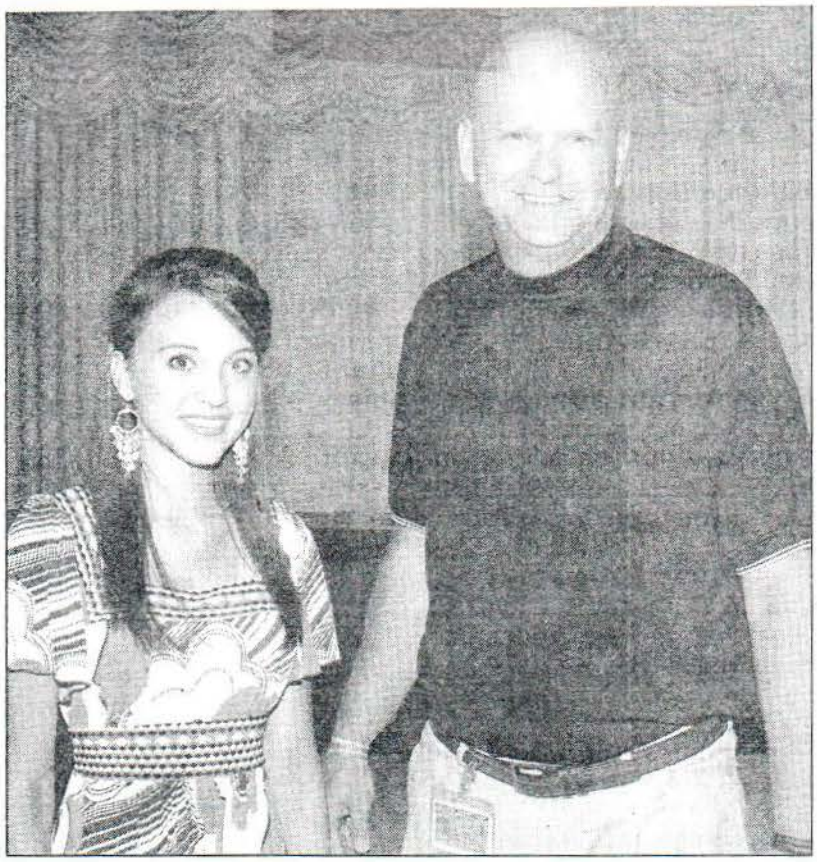
WEEK OF Aug. 6



ECCC PHOTO

JOHNSON RECEIVE MAYES SCHOLARSHIP

Jana Johnson (left) of Morton is this year's recipient of the Thomas Rudolph Mayes Scholarship at East Central Community College. Established in 1998, the scholarship honors the memory of Mr. Mayes, who served 28 years as an English instructor at the College. Pictured with the scholarship recipient is Joe Killens, vice president for student services. The award was presented at the 2007 AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held on the Decatur campus.

APPEARED IN:

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

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WEEK OF Aug. 6

ECCC PHOTO

GIBBS RECEIVES SANDERS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Brittany Gibbs (left), a 2007 graduate of Lake High School, is the recipient of the Charles Sanders Memorial Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established in 2000 and is awarded by the Forest/Scott County Civic Club. Pictured with the recipient is ECCC recruiter/Tech Prep Career Center director Ramonica Evans. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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WEEK OF Aug. 6

ECCC PHOTO

MCCONNEL RECEIVES RICHARD HARRIS SCHOLARSHIP

Sophomore Tina McConnel (center) of Lake is the recipent of the Richard Harris Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established in 2003 by Dr. Harold Aycock (left) in honor of Richard Harris (right), his high school basketball coach at Hickory High School. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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OTHER _____

WEEK OF Aug. 6

ECCC PHOTO

MART RECEIVES J.C. WHITE SCHOLARSHIP

G. David Mart II (left), a 2007 graduate of Forest High School, is the recipient of the J.C. White Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established in 2000 in memory of Mr. White, a member of the ECCC Class of 1937. Pictured with the recipient is ECCC recruiter/Tech Prep Career Center director Ramonica Evans. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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WEEK OF Aug. 6

ECCC PHOTO

MART RECEIVES J.C. WHITE SCHOLARSHIP

G. David Mart II (left), a 2007 graduate of Forest High School, is the recipient of the J.C. White Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established in 2000 in memory of Mr. White, a member of the ECCC Class of 1937. Pictured with the recipient is ECCC recruiter/Tech Prep Career Center director Ramonica Evans. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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OTHER _____

WEEK OF Aug. 6

ECCC PHOTO

WADE RECEIVES CARR SCHOLARSHIP

Matthew Wade (left), a 2007 graduate of Forest High School, is the recipient of the Mable Moore Carr Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Carr Scholarship was endowed in 1996 by Mrs. Carr's four sons in honor of their mother and is presented each year to a graduate of Forest High School. Representing the donors is Mrs. Carr's grandson, Jay Carr (right). The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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OTHER _____

WEEK OF Aug. 13

Scholarship recipient

Joshua Huffman (left) of Carthage is a recipient of the 2007 Mississippi Association of Supervisors Scholarship presented at East Central Community College. Pictured with the incoming freshman is Brent Gregory, director of student life/student recruiter. The award was announced at the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation luncheon held earlier this summer on the Decatur campus.

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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OTHER _____

WEEK OF Aug. 13

ECCC PHOTO

HARRISON PRESENTED SUPERVISOR SCHOLARSHIP

Brittany Harrison (left) of Morton is a recipient of the 2007 Mississippi Association of Supervisors Scholarship presented at East Central Community College. Pictured with the incoming freshman is Michael Alexander, academic counselor/recruiter. The award was announced at the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held earlier this summer on the Decatur campus.

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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WEEK OF Aug. 20

EAST CENTRAL CO

RECEIVES DAVIS SCHOLARSHIP: Loren Kennedy (center) of Union, a 2007 graduate of East Central Community College, is the recipient of the 2007 Aaron Ron Davis Memorial Scholarship at the College. This scholarship was established in 2006 to honor the memory of Ron Davis who taught in the ECCC science department for 19 years. Representing the donors are Davis' widow, Patti Davis (left), and ECCC science instructor Kim Hardy. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, 2007.

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

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OTHER _____

WEEK OF Aug 30

Complete ECCC Practical Nursing Program

These graduates of East Central Community College's practical nursing program were recognized during the annual pinning ceremony held recently on the Decatur campus. The Class of 2007 includes (first row, from left) Renee Johnson, Morton; Morgan Hamm, Union; Jill Hines and Ann Colbert, both of Lake; Morgan Myers, Philadelphia; and Kristy Youngblood, Philadelphia; (second row, from left) Amber Tatum, Homewood; Tamia Jones, Philadelphia; Nicole Nester, Lake; Elise Harrell, Carthage; and Cynthia Luckett, Forest; (third row, from left) Christy Bell, Forest; Heather Richardson, Homewood; Jeri Sow, Decatur; Kelly Copeland, Philadelphia; and Shanna McKee, Union; (fourth row, from left) Angela Price, Philadelphia; Joe Cornelius, Louisville; and Audrey Neal, Forest; and (top row, from left) instructors Lori Luke and Kelly Miller. (EC Photo)

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SPIRIT OF MORTON X

WEEK OF Aug. 20

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC'S NJCAA ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICANS

These student-athletes at East Central Community College in Decatur were named National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Academic All-Americans for 2006-07. Honorees and their respective sports area include (seated from left) Loren Kennedy (softball) and Kim Cleveland (tennis), both of Union; and Briana Stinson (tennis) and Celeste Burt (soccer), both of Philadelphia. Standing from left are Amanda Schmidt (softball), Carthage; Maggie McDill (soccer and tennis) and Colby Amis (football and golf), both of Decatur; Wade Brown (tennis), Forest; Chelsea Brown (soccer and tennis), Perkinston: and Brittany Harper (soccer), Meridian. Amis, Kennedy, McDill, Stinson, Harper, Burt and Schmidt were named Distinguished Academic All-Americans for achieving a 3.8 grade point average or above. Cleveland, Chelsea Brown and Wade Brown qualified as Academic All-Americans for earning at least a 3.6 GPA. Students who receive NJCAA Academic All-American honors must have completed three semesters of college work and participated in at least one athletic season on the varsity level. Honorees will be featured in an upcoming issue of the NJCAA publication, JUCO Review.

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

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WEEK OF Aug. 20

Receives GED diploma

Monte Isaac of Philadelphia is shown receiving his high school equivalency diploma from Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, president of East Central Community College, during the College's 11th annual GED Graduation ceremony held July 17 on the Decatur campus. Issac was among 45 graduates who were honored at the special ceremony. At right is Joe Killens, vice president for student services. Adult Basic Education and GED Preparation classes are provided through the College's Office of Adult and Continuing Education. Classes are held at various locations in the ECCC district, which includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties. For more information contact the Office of Adult and Continuing Education, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 279. The email address isgdavis@eccc.edu.

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF Aug. 27

Wins scholarship

Aaron Mann, of Carthage has received the Nellie Neill Cross Scholarship at East Central Community College. The scholarship, honoring the former ECCC faculty member and Sullivan Student Center manager, is awarded annually to an entering freshman who plans to major in music with an emphasis in voice.

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CARTHAGINIAN ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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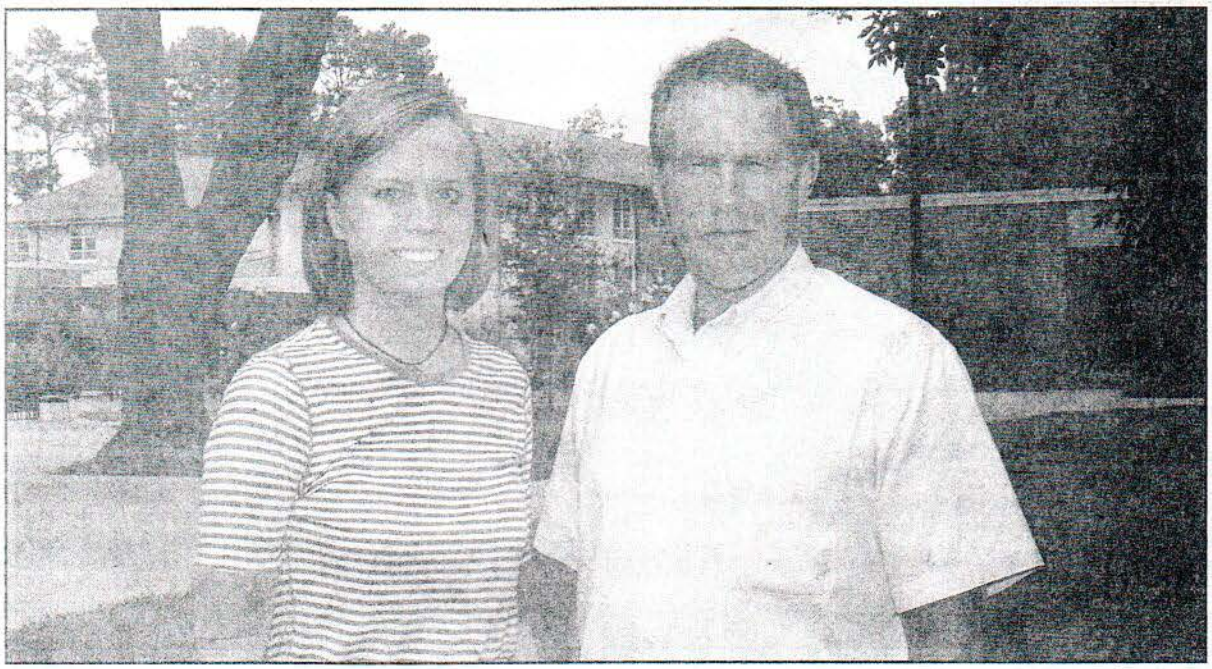
WEEK OF Aug. 27



Sharp receives Supervisor Scholarship

Amy Sharp, left, of Philadelphia is a recipient of the 2007 Mississippi Association of Supervisors Scholarship presented at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured with the Neshoba Central High School graduate is Michael Alexander, ECCC academic counselor/recruiter. The award was announced at the annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held earlier this summer on the ECCC campus. (EC Photo)

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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OTHER _____

WEEK OF Aug. 27

m Record Wednesday, August 29, 2007

ECCC

REPRESENT CROSS FAMILY AT ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON: Representing the Cross family at East Central Community College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon were Corrine Cross Neal (left) and Judy Wright Kabota. Each year the Nellie Neill Cross Memorial Scholarship, established by former students and friends, is presented in honor of the former ECJC faculty member. The luncheon was held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. This year's recipient Aaron Mann (not pictured), a 2007 graduate of Carthage High School.

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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OTHER _____

WEEK OF Aug. 27

Chaney presented Auto Manufacturers Award

Nathan Chaney, left, of Philadelphia received a Mississippi Automotive Manufacturers Scholarship presented at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Neshoba Central High School graduate is pictured with Michael Alexander, ECCC academic counselor/recruiter. The award was announced at the annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held earlier this summer on the ECCC campus. (EC Photo)

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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OTHER _____

Orientation / Enrollment

WEEK OF Sept 3/07

Davis attends ECCC orientation

Elizabeth Davis, left, of the House community was among area students who attended the Aug. 10 orientation session held at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Neshoba Central High School graduate is shown with speech instructor/adviser Kevin Ryals who assisted the incoming freshman in planning her fall class schedule. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

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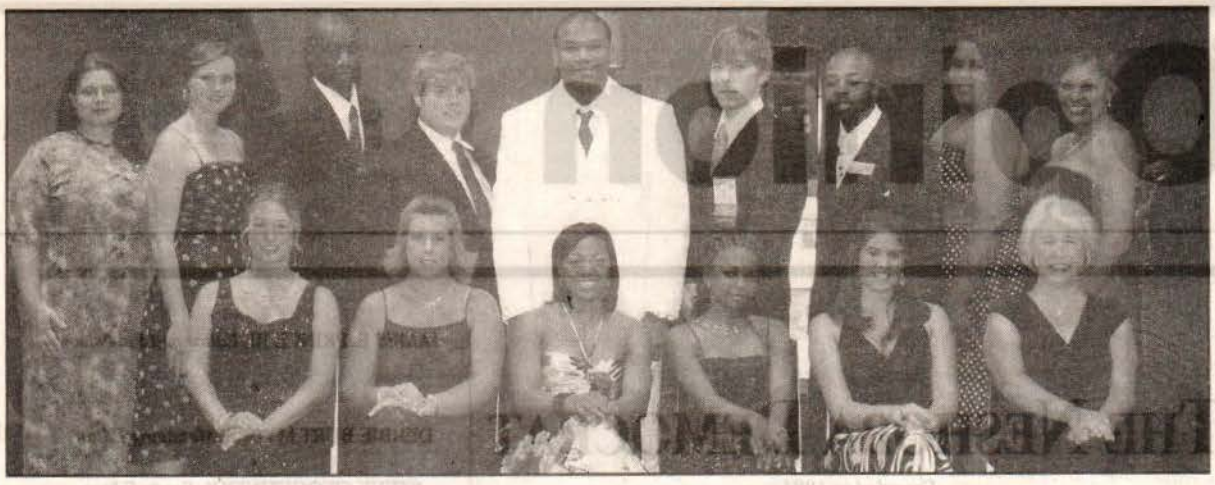
WEEK OF Sept. 3/07

The Neshoba Democrat, Philadelphia, Miss., September 5, 2007, 3A



ECCC students receive national PBL honors

Various honors were presented to the above students representing East Central Community College in Decatur who attended the 2007 National Phi Beta Lambda Leadership Conference held earlier this summer in Chicago. Participants and award winners include (seated from left) Christy Ferguson, business and office technology instructor who also serves as a club sponsor; Shannon Pilgrim, Carthage; Nicole Pittman, Newton; Courtney Yates, Louisville; Brookes Mayes of Newton, fifth place, Business Plan; and Brenda Johnson, computer technology instructor and club sponsor; and (standing from left) Samara Beckham of Philadelphia, seventh place, Community Service Project; Rebecca Rogers of Chunky, sixth place, American Enterprise Project; Carlos Rice of Louisville and William Cumberland of Philadelphia, sixth place, Parliamentary Procedure; Jeffery Davis of Louisville, fifth place, Business Plan and sixth place, Parliamentary Procedure; Andy Johnson of Philadelphia, second place, Annual Business Report and fifth place, Business Plan; Terry Smith, Louisville; Leslie Nash of Union, sixth place, Parliamentary Procedure and ninth place, Impromptu Speaking; and Delynn Agee of Philadelphia, eighth place, Partnership with Business. The ECCC group was also recognized as a "Gold Seal Chapter." Terry Smith was recognized for serving as state parliamentarian.

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

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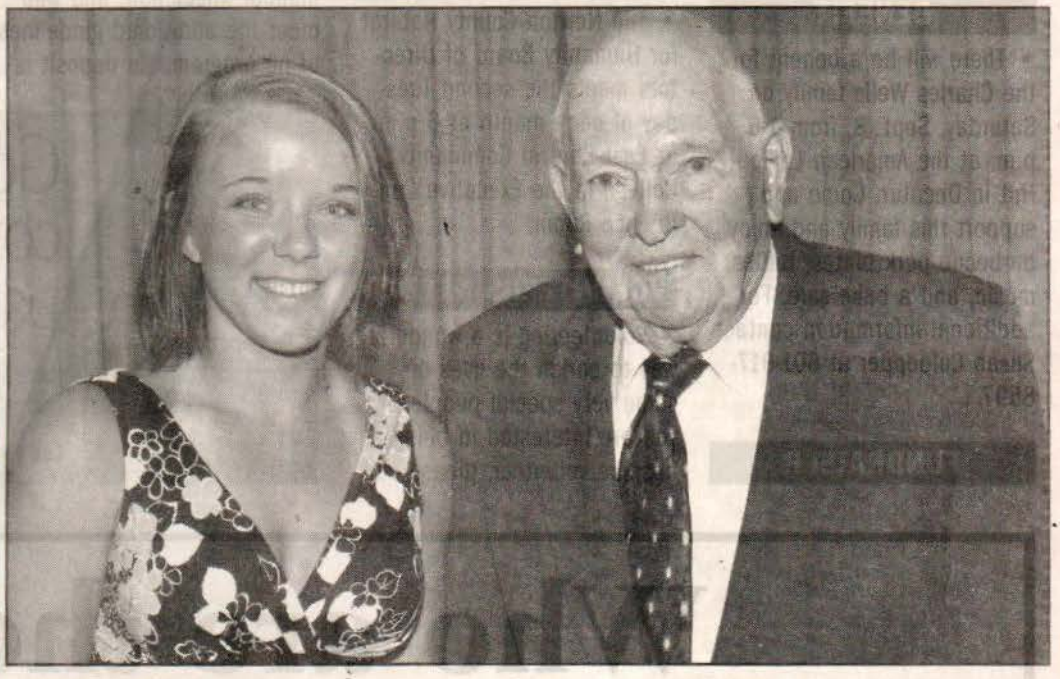
WEEK OF Sept. 3/07

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE



BEEMON SCHOLARSHIP: Nchs graduate Sharla Joiner (left) is the recipient of the 2007 T.T. Beemon Scholarship at ECCC in Decatur. The Beemon scholarship was established in 2001 by T.T. Beemon, ECCC Class of 1937, and his wife, the former Mary Emma Fancher. Representing the donors is Col. Albert Smith. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thurs., June 14.

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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OTHER _____

WEEK OF Sept. 3/07

ECCC Gospel Choir reunion, concert scheduled October 6-7

Reunion activities highlighted by a concert performance are scheduled October 6-7, 2007, for former Gospel Choir members at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Brenda K. Johnson of Lawrence.

Johnson, who has served as the group's lone sponsor since its formation in 1988, invites all choir members to participate in the weekend celebration, which begins with rehearsal at 4 p.m. Saturday, October 6 in Huff Auditorium. The concert will also be held in Huff, beginning at 6 p.m. Sunday, October 7.

"The time has come for our former choir members to reunite and share the joy of praising God through song," said Johnson. "I encourage everyone who has been a member of the Gospel Choir to participate in the weekend activities. We look forward to seeing everyone again."

Johnson said the first gospel choir begin in 1988, with Kathy Smith Sanders of Forest serving as choir president.

"Since that time," Johnson added. "The choir has become widely known throughout Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott, Winston and Lauderdale counties."

Sanders continues to assist the choir while also serving as a secretary in the ECCC Communications Office.

APPEARED IN:

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

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WEEK OF Sept. 17/07

FBLA STUDENTS RECEIVE FULL SCHOLARSHIPS: Three students from the Newton County Career and Technical Center in Decatur received full tuition scholarships to East Central Community College. The Future Business Leaders of America Multimedia Team received the scholarships at a recent awards program. Members of the team are from left: Jody Lawson, son of Kim Lawson; Kimberly Goodin, daughter of Gerald and Joan Goodin; and Ashton Acord, son of Joey and Robin Acord. These students placed first at State FBLA Competition and attended National Competition during the summer. Students who enroll in one of the technical programs at the Career Center, join and compete in the club associated with that program(s), and place first at either District or State competitions are eligible to receive a full tuition scholarship to ECCC if they enroll full time in a Career and Technical program.

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

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IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Sept. 17/07

ECCC

RECEIVES ENTERGY MISSISSIPPI, INC. SCHOLARSHIP: Newton County High School graduate Leah Platt (left) is the 2007 recipient of the Entergy Mississippi, Inc. Excellence in Education Scholarship for Career and Technical Students at East Central Community College in Decatur. Established in 2001, this scholarship recognizes the importance of a well-trained workforce to the future economic success of Mississippi and the role that community colleges play in this success. The recipient is pictured with Entergy representative Cheryl Comans. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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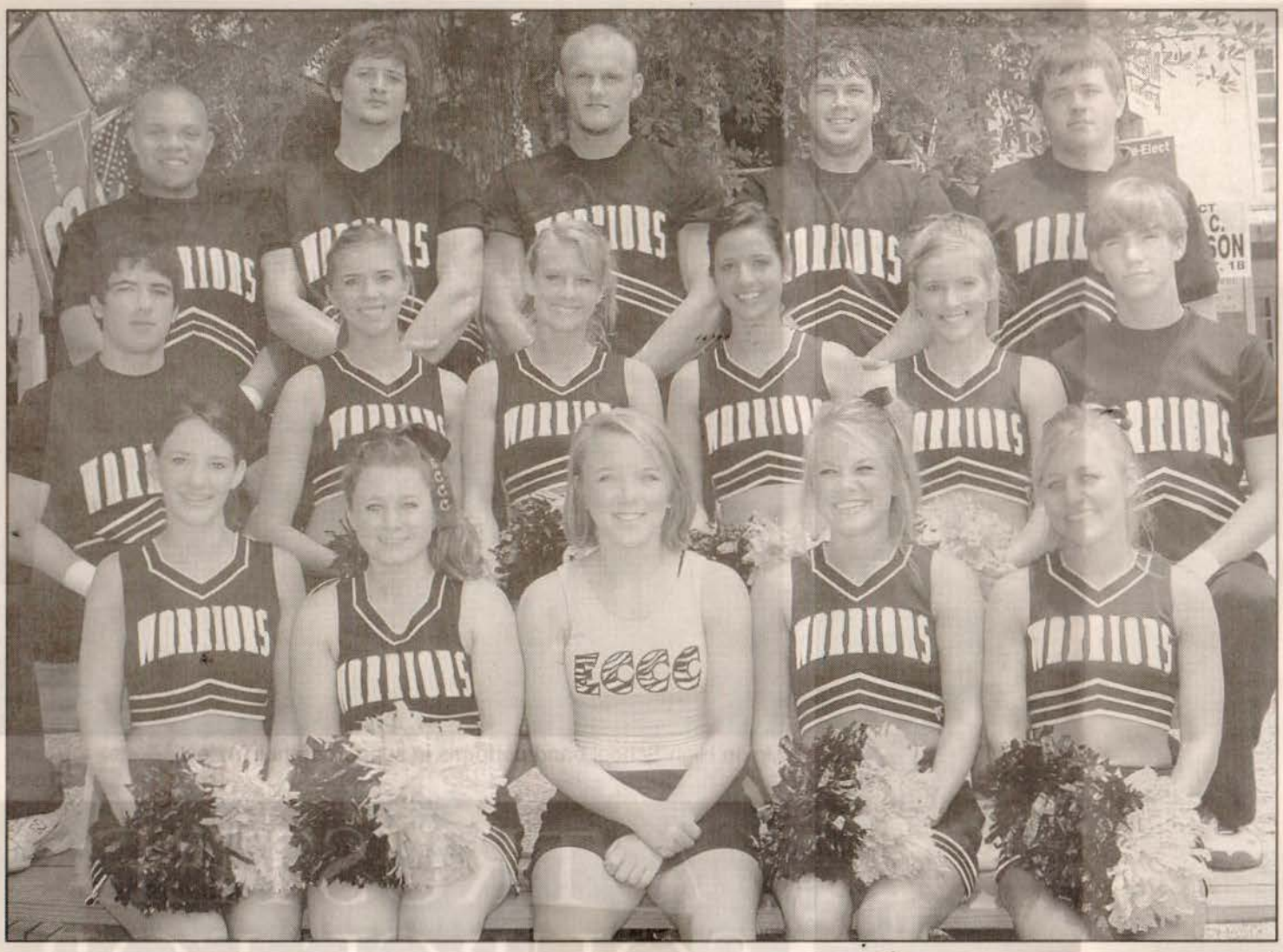

2007-08 ECCC Cheerleaders

Members of the East Central Community College Warrior cheerleading squad for 2007-08 and their respective high schools include (front row, from left) Anna Munn, West Lauderdale; Elaina James, Sylva Bay Academy; Sharla Joyner, Newton County; Juley Taylor, East Rankin Academy; and Kayla Adcock, Winston Academy; (second, row, from left) Noah Cook, Newton County; Dakota Anthony, Neshoba Central; Kacy Covert, West Lauderdale; Dru Anderson, Newton County; Emily Thrash, Sebastopol; and Matt Naylor, West Lauderdale; and (back row, from left) Tavares Walker, Morton; Phillip Vines, Neshoba Central; Dustin Evans, Collins; Adam Brown, Lake; and Daniel Steverson, Newton County Academy. Huellen Watson serves as sponsor. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF Sept. 24/07

East Central reports enrollment increase

A slight increase in enrollment is reported for the 2007 fall semester at East Central Community College in Decatur, according to Donna Luke, director of admissions, records and research.

Luke said 2,482 students are registered for fall classes, an increase of 81 students or 3.4 percent, compared to the 2006 fall term.

Included in the 2007 total are 1,689 academic students, 659 technical students and 134 students enrolled in career programs. She also noted that 1,952 students are enrolled on a full-time basis and 540 are considered part-time students.

Joe Killens, vice president for student services, said he is "very pleased" with the increase, especially following two years of decline when enrollment peaked at 2,739 students in 2004.

"We are very pleased with the quantity as well as the quality of students that are enrolled at East Central this fall, "Killens said. "Our recruitiing staff has worked very hard to ensure that we had

See **ECCC**, Page 13A

ECCC

From Page 1A

an increase."

Killens said that East Central really speaks for itself along with the tremendous staff they have on campus and also they had a small increase with online classes but most of the students that take online classes are enrolled in school here as well," Killens said.

East Central serves Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties.

For more information contact ECCC Student Services, phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu.

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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WEEK OF Sept. 24/07

East Central office technology students

Medical office and business office technology students at East Central Community College in Decatur recently participated in the Rush Health Systems Career Fair 2007 in Meridian. Those participating included, from left, front, Judy Hurtt, medical office/billing and coding instructor; Tiffany Plummer, Little Rock; Tammy Thaisance, Union; Jill Compton, Conehatta; Jessica Fugitt, Walnut Grove; Tameka Hopson, Meridian; Pamela Boone, Carthage; Elizabeth Horton, Forest; Kimberly Hearn, Meridian; Dollye Packer, Lake; back, Brooke Barrett and Sabra Fortenberry, both of Union; Shonda Marshall, Carthage; Krystle Hardy, Forest; Alicia Stiles, Lena; Felicia Futch, Forest; Portie Gaddis, Carthage; and Ruth Gregory, business office technology instructor.

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

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WEEK OF Sept. 24/07

Koch Employees Complete ECCC-Provided Training

Employees of Koch Foods in Morton have completed training for the fundamentals of AC and DC electrical systems used for power and control in industrial, commercial, agricultural, and residential applications. These employees now know how to operate, install, design, and troubleshoot basic AC and DC electrical circuits for various applications. Those receiving certificates of completion are (seated from left) Jimmy Demarcay, and Scott Garland, both of Morton; and Joey Monk of Lake; and (standing from left) Ellis Truss, of Camden; Jimmy Gatewood and Michael Allen, both of Morton; Blake Warren, advanced skills trainer; and Jamie Lanthrip of Forest. For more information on this class and others being offered, contact Joseph Knight, ECCC Workforce Development Coordinator, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 265; or Warren, Phone 601-389-0832. Their email address is jknight@eccc.edu or bwarren@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

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IMPACT _____

ECCC Wall O' Sound Revisiting Favorite Tunes

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR—East Central Community College Director of Bands Thomas W. Carson says he is excited about his 26th year at the helm of the Wall O' Sound band program and the diverse show they will present during the 2007 marching season.

"We are revisiting some of our favorite field tunes from the past," Carson said. "This year's halftime show will include everything from the hard driving rock sound of Ted Nugent to the ever popular theme from 'Mission: Impossible.'"

As the band prepares for another fast-paced season of entertainment, Carson said the entire band staff has been "instrumental" in the continued success of the ECCC program.

"Assistant band director and percussion instructor Jared Brownlee will again showcase the ever-popular drum line, composed of the highest talent in the area," he said. "Dance line instructor Nichol Hillman's Centralettes will shine and dazzle halftime with their high energy routines and Ricardo Robinson's color guard will again prove why he is one of the most sought-after instructors in the state!"

The band performs during halftime of all home games and travels to select road games. For more information on the ECCC Wall O' Sound band program contact Carson at 601-635-6228 or by email at tcarson@eccc.edu. Information can also be found on the College's website at www.eccc.edu.

Serving as drum majors for the 2007 season are Candy Ezell (head) of Morton, Kristen Chamblee of Forest and Calvin Griffen of Carthage.

Members of the Centralettes dance line are Lana Adkins, Jennifer Coghlan, Jessica Galloway, Brittany Germany, Anna Johnson and Krystle Wolverton, all of Union; Marty Bergin and Courtney Elkins, both of Forest; Haley Culpepper and Hannah Culpepper, both of Scott Central; April Dunavant, Carmen Ezell and Candi Vance, all of Newton County; Reagan Joyner, Neshoba Central; Kellly Kight and Latrice Waters, both of Nanih Waiya; Lacy McMurray, Edinburg; Jordan Taylor, Central Academy and Tiffany Thomas, Winston Academy.

Color guard members include Sky Apperson, Rachael Day, Alvina Slaughter and Crystal Walker, all of Neshoba Central; Yentl Brently, Tyyra Evans and Angela Moore, all of Lake; Lara Burt and Misty Williamson, both of Louisville; Elizabeth Barney, Wendy Cater and Brandy Gomillion, all of Sebastopol; Celeste Franklin, DeAndrea Graham and Erin Warren, all of Philadelphia; Allison Leach, Union; Monica McMahon and Rachel Oatman, both of West Lauderdale; Amber Wall, Scott Central; and Tashia Williamson and Tashina Taylor, both of Choctaw Central.

ECCC PHOTO

Serving as drum majors for the 2007 East Central Community College Wall 'O Sound marching band are (from left) Candi Ezell (head) of Morton, Calvin Griffin of Carthage and Kristen Chamblee of Forest.

Members of the drum line are Cassidy Byars, Corey Sharp and Justin Weathers, all of Philadelphia; Jonathan Crabtree, Vicksburg; Travis Smallwood and Anna Switzer, both of West Lauderdale; Skyler Steele, Nathan Spears, Brewer

Please see ECCC WALL O'SOUND, 14C

ECCC WALL O' SOUND

From Page 11C

McGee, John Bates, Connie Savell, Casey Stokes and Dustin Moore of Neshoba Central; Stephen Coleman, Louisville; Marvin Flucker, Newton; Hillary Rieger, Pearl; Monica Chesney, Union; Cristen Jones and Lucy Burns, both of Carthage; and Kyle Barrett, Newton County.

Those who play flute include Kayla Crane, Morton; Anna Rouse, Union; Tierra Hughes and Brandi Tollett, both of Louisville; Liz Thorne, Neshoba Central; and Olivia Scott, Carthage.

Clarinetists include Latoria Lewis, Southeast Lauderldale; Amneris Avalos, Jasmine Earby and Paula Parker, all of Morton; Jonathan Jackson and Shardae Foley, both of Newton County; Erica Davenport and Andrekia Miller, both of Louisville; Kristina Ealy, Forest; Margie Black and Brittany Gibbs, both of Lake; Rhonda Houston, Neshoba Central; and Emily Malone, Carthage.

Band members playing saxophone include Brent Cumberland, Philadelphia; Amber Griffin, Carthage; Matthew Moore, Morton; Courtney Patrick, Forest; Thomas Sadler and Leslie Nash, both of Union; Ben Ingram, Leake Academy; and Matt Woods, Neshoba Central.

Tuba players are Vickie Smith, West Lauderdale; Andrew Haynes, DeMario Parkes and Paul Edwards, all of Louisville; Dexter McDonald, Forest Hill; and Austin Crowther, Newton County.

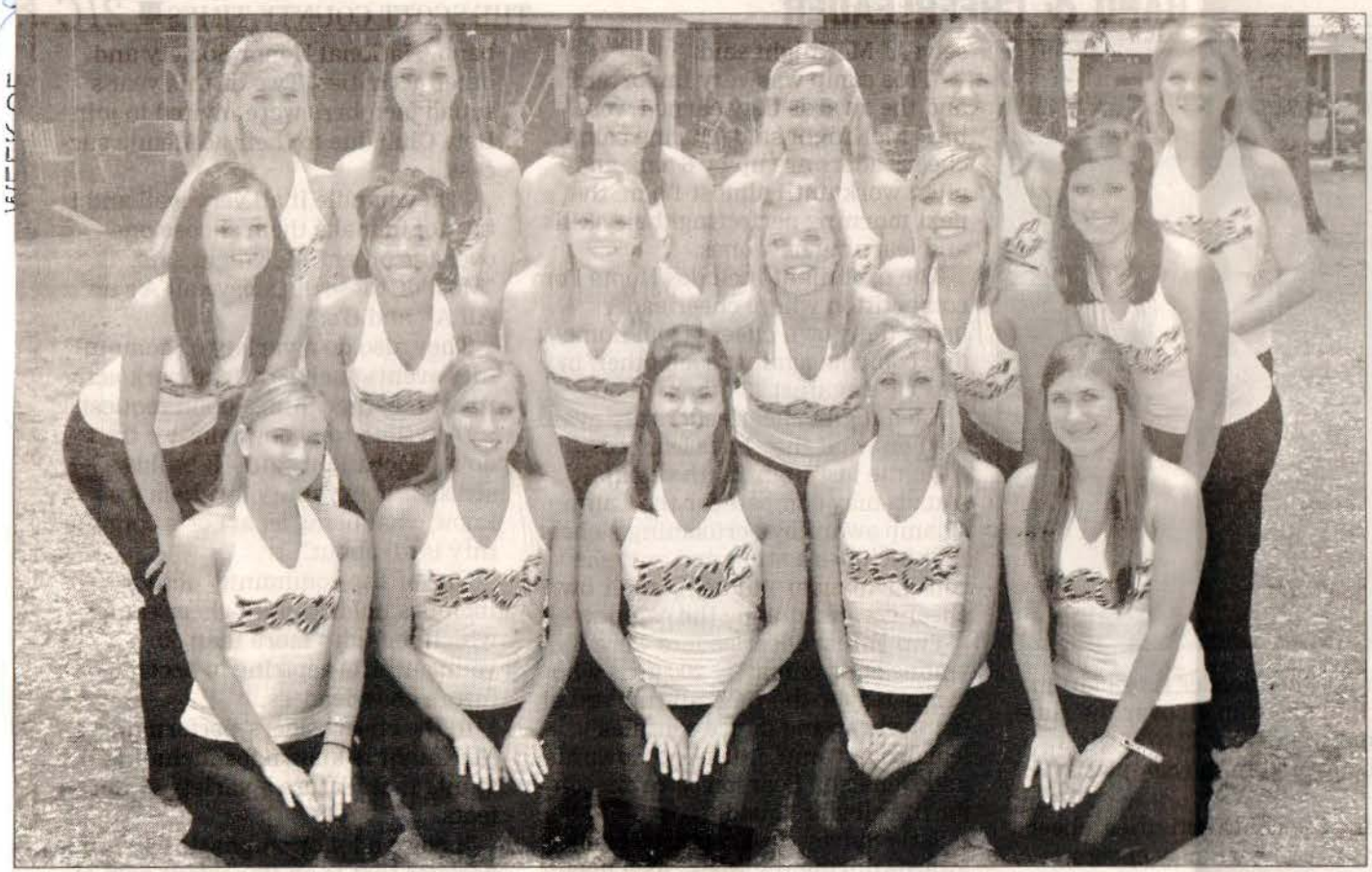
Those who play trumpet include Drew Gillis, Newton County; Aaron Johnson and Van Williams, both of Newton; Graylon Foster, Philadelphia; Aaron Mann and Ruby McCurdy, both of Carthage; Emmeral McLaurin, Scott Central; Whitney Bryan, Neshoba Central; Victoria York and Teriette Weidman, both of Lake; and Dewayne Yarbrough, Louisville;

Mellophone players are Ricky Rickles, Philadelphia; Emilee Lanier, Newton County; and Christina Hopkins, Louisville.

Trombonists include Brett Latimer, Neshoba Central; Sherri Smith, Jameela Hannah, Chuck Heard, Terri Smith and Cornelius Smith, all of Louisville; Robin Brown and Phillip Stovall, both of Carthage; Courtney Gamill, Lake; Lacy Loper, Newton County; and Kenyana Rivers, Newton.

Baritones are Jeremy Loper and Mashoon Manning, both of Scott Central; Clay Winstead, Neshoba Central; Fedrick Burkes, Forest; and Tierra Murff, Louisville.

Band managers for the 2007 season include Josh Talbert, Newton; Anthony Williams, Newton County; Andy Ladd, Neshoba Central; Jimario Holmes and Justin Boone, both of Louisville; and Tyrell Satcher, Quitman.



ECCC PHOTO

ECCC CENTRALETTES

Members of the East Community College Centralettes, the danceline for the Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching Band, and their respective high schools include (front row, from left) Brittany Germany, Tiffany Thomas, Marty Bergin, Forest; Kelly Kight and Reagan Joyner; (second row, from left) Jennifer Coghlan, Latrice Waters, Courtney Elkins, Forest; Lacy McMurry, Jordan Taylor and Candi Vance; and (back row, from left) Krystle Wolverton, Nicole Dunavant, Lana Adkins, Anna Johnson, Carmen Ezell and Jessica Galloway. Not pictured are Haley Culpepper and Hannah Culpepper, both of Scott Central.

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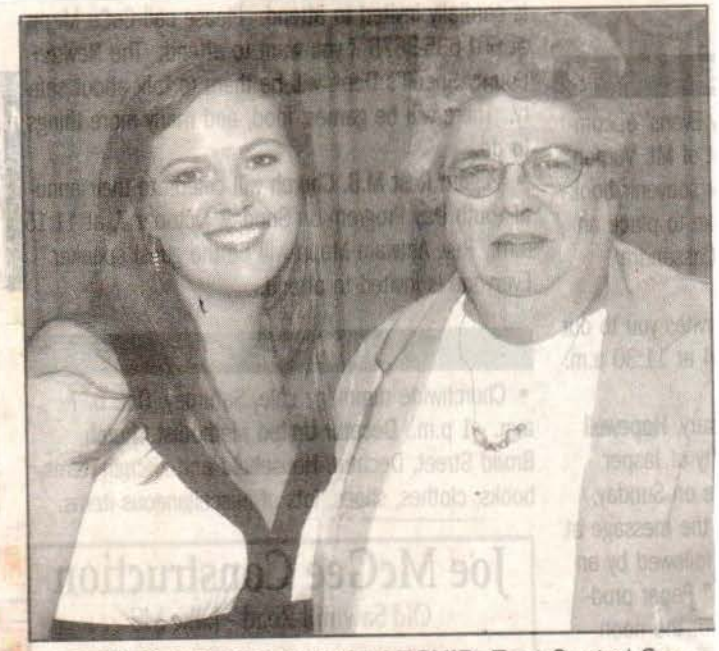
WEEK OF Oct 1/07



RECEIVES BURKES SCHOLARSHIP: East Central Community College sophomore Beth Alexander (left) of Little Rock is the recipient of the 2007 Ann H. Burkes Scholarship. Established in 1999 to honor the life and works of Ann Hunter Burkes (right) of Decatur, a longtime employee and Phi Theta Kappa advisor at East Central, this scholarship is awarded to a returning Phi Theta Kappa member. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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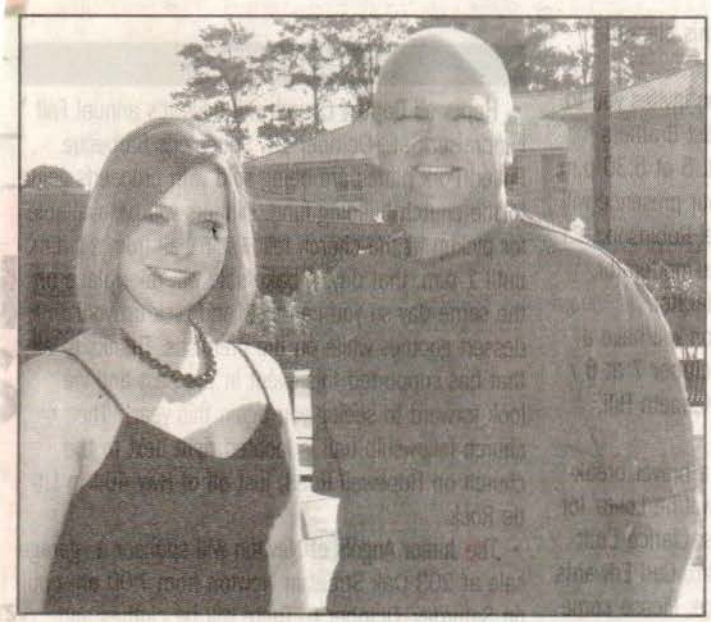
WEEK OF Oct 1 '07

ECCC



APPERSON RECEIVES SUPERVISOR SCHOLARSHIP: Arielle Apperson (left) of Philadelphia is a recipient of the 2007 Mississippi Association of Supervisors Scholarship presented at East Central Community College. Pictured with the incoming freshman is Joe Killens, vice president for student services. The award was announced at the College's annual AT& T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held earlier this summer on the Decatur campus.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF Oct 8/07

ECCC art display features Daniels

Philadelphia native Victoria Daniels, a 2003 graduate of East Central Community College, will be the featured artist during the College's annual Homecoming art show. The official opening will be from 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 11, in the Vickers Fine Arts Center on the Decatur campus. The event is open to the public and there is no charge for admission.

A 2001 graduate of Neshoba Central High School, Daniels received various scholarships at East Central including an academic art scholarship. She was a Dean's List scholar and was selected for Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges. In addition, she served as secretary of her freshman class and an officer in Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges.

In addition, Daniels received a third place award in the acrylics division of the Central Mississippi artists guild competition held at Roosevelt State Park.

Daniels continued her education at Mississippi University for Women and received the bachelor of fine arts degree in studio arts with an emphasis in photography. A President's List scholar, she received the Amy Byrnes Scholarship, was a member of Kappa Pi and received honorable mention recognition for her undergraduate student photography exhibit.

She currently resides in Austin, Texas.

APPEARED IN:

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF Oct. 8/07

Tickets on sale Oct. 15 for EC Players presentation of 'If a Man Answers'

Tickets will go on sale Monday, Oct. 15 for the East Central Community College Players' production of David Rogers' "If A Man Answers," to be held Nov. 8-10 in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria on the Decatur campus.

The dinner theater performances are scheduled for seven o'clock each evening. Tickets are $12 each. To make reservations call the college switchboard at 601-635-2111 or toll free 1-877-462-3222.

This three-act comedy tells the story of Chantal Stacey, whose Parisian mother hands her a dog-training manual as the secret recipe for making a husband happy.

Cast members include Anna Laurie Ezelle as Chantal Stacey, Tyler Hansford as Gene Wright and Kylie Rigdon as Salome, all of Union; Aaron Morrison as John Stacey, Erin Tramill as Germaine Stacey, Brookes Mayes as Tina Brooks and Van Williams as Mr. Chadwick, all of Newton; Rebecca Roland as Miss Kaye, India Dickerson as Conchita and Jennifer Sistrunk as the flower shop clerk, all of Carthage; Emilee Lanier as Belladonna and Nicole Dunavant as Europa, both of Little Rock; and J.B. Files of Noxapater as Robert Swan.

Beth Alexander of Little Rock serves as stage manager/understudy. Skye Apperson of Philadelphia is in charge of lights and sound and serves as an understudy. Set designers include Christopher Buckley of Union, Tommy Carson of Decatur, Austin Lee of Forest and Christopher Merrell of Newton. Tanner Stuart of Walnut Grove serves as a stage hand/male understudy. ECCC Tech Prep Coordinator Joan Grimes of Union serves as director.

Cast members for the upcoming ECCC production of "If A Man Answers" include (seated, from left) Brookes Mayes of Newton, Anna Laurie Ezelle and Kylie Rigdon, both of Union and Jennifer Sistrunk of Carthage; and (standing, from left) Rebecca Roland of Carthage, Aaron Morrison of Newton, Tyler Hansford of Union and Erin Tramill of Newton. Not pictured are Van Williams of Newton, India Dickerson of Carthage, Emilee Lanier and Nicole Dunavant, both of Little Rock; and J.B. Files of Noxapater.

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WEEK OF Oct. 22

Gospel choir voices unite

A performance by alumni of the East Central Community College gospel choir highlighted recent reunion activities on the Decatur campus, including some 70 voices of former members who performed in a Sunday night concert on the Huff Auditorium stage before a capacity crowd. News reporter/anchor Andrea Williams of Meridian served as mistress of ceremonies.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

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CLARION-LEDGER

IMPACT

WEEK OF Oct. 22

Area students join ECCC Warrior Corps

Candi Vance

Brittany Germany

Kenzie Gaines

Candi Vance and Brittany Germany, both of Union, and Kenzie Gaines of Philadelphia were recently chosen a member of the East Central Community College Warrior Corps, a select group of students who assist in recruiting and serve as hosts and hostesses for various events on the Decatur campus.

Vance, a freshman speech pathology major, is also a member of the Concert Choir and Centralettes, the dance line for the Wall O' Sound Marching Band.

Vance is a 2007 graduate of Newton County High School, where she served as a class officer and Student Council representative.

Her parents are Chris and Tracy Vance of Union.

Germany, a sophomore pre-nursing major, is also a member of the Centralettes, the dance line for the Wall O' Sound Marching Band.

She is an honor graduate of Union High School, where she was a cheerleader and Beta Club member. She also received the Best School Spirit award.

Her parents are Rex and Margaret Germany of Union.

Gaines, a freshman biochemistry major, is also a member of the Baptist Student Union, ECCC Players and the Lady Warrior soccer team.

She is a 2007 "special distinction" graduate of Neshoba Central High School, where she received the Spanish Award and served as Girls' State delegate. Gaines also received the most valuable offensive player award in soccer for four years.

Her parents are Keith and Rita Gaines of Philadelphia.

Warrior Corps advisers are Lanette Hanna and Michael Alexander, academic counselors, and Romonica Evans, recruiter/Tech Prep Career Center director.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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Area students named to ECCC Warrior Corps

Anna Johnson, Anna Laurie Ezelle, Beth Ann Wade, Kylie Rigdon and Leslie Nash, all of Union, and Reagan Joyner, Phillip Vines, Austin McNair, Sean Farmer, Ashley Fortune and Lacey Brewer, all of Philadelphia, were recently chosen a member of the East Central Community College Warrior Corps, a select group of students who assist in recruiting and serve as hosts and hostesses for various events on the Decatur campus.

Johnson, a freshman liberal arts major, is also a member of the Baptist Student Union and Centralettes, the dance line for the Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching Band.

She is a 2007 honor graduate of Union High School, where she served as president of the Beta Club and Fellowship of Christian Athletes, was treasurer for Future Business Leaders of America. She also served as class president and wash chosen Vo-Tech Student of the Year.

Her parents are Burl and Denise Johnson of Union.

Ezelle, a freshman liberal arts major, is also a member of the Concert Choir, ECCC Players and Baptist Student Union.

She is a 2007 graduate of Union High School, where the class salutatorian was named Miss UHS, homecoming queen and class favorite. She was also selected to the Hall of Fame.

Her parents are Joey and Susan Ezelle of Union.

Wade, a freshman liberal arts major, is also a member of the Baptist Student Union.

She is a 2007 graduate of Union High School, where she received the "super student in geometry" award.

Rigdon, a freshman business major, is also a member of The Tom-Tom and Wo-He-Lo staffs, ECCC Players and the Warrior tennis team.

Rigdon is a 2007 honor graduate of Union High School, where she received numerous awards.

Her parents are Paul and Debbie Rigdon of Union.

Nash, a sophomore secondary education major, is also a member of the Wall O' Sound Marching Band, Collegians, Phi Beta Lambda, Phi Theta Kappa, President's Council and Gospel Choir.

Nash is an honor graduate of Union High School, where she was a National English Merit Scholar finalist, National Coca-Cola Scholar and National Speaking Contest finalist.

Her parents are Ex Earl and Mary Nash.

Joyner, a sophomore liberal arts major, is also a member of the Centralettes, the dance line for the Wall O' Sound Marching Band.

Joyner is a graduate of Neshoba Central High School, where she was named to the special honor roll and served as class vice president. In addition, she received the "I Dare You" and debate awards.

Her parents are Dale and the late Rose Joyner.

Vines, a sophomore nursing major, is also a Warrior cheerleader and member of Sigma Sigma Mu Tau.

Vines is a special distinction graduate of Neshoba Central High School.

His parents are James and Tammie Vines.

McNair, a sophomore nursing major, is also a member of the College's cheerleading squad.

He is a graduate of Neshoba Central High School.

His parents are Barry and Vikki McNair of Philadelphia.

Anna Johnson

Anna Ezelle

Beth Ann Wade

Kylie Rigdon

Leslie Nash

Reagan Joyner

Phillip Vines

Austin McNair

Sean Farmer

Ashley Fortune

Lacey Brewer

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Farmer, a freshman elementary education major, is also a member of the Student Education Association.

Farmer is a 2007 graduate of Choctaw Central High School, where he was class valedictorian and recipient of awards in English, trigonometry and history.

His parents are Charles and Sandra Farmer.

Fortune, a freshman liberal arts major, is also a member of the Baptist Student Union and Diamond Darlings. She also participates in intramural sports.

Fortune is a graduate of Edinburg High School, where she served as senior class vice president, student government association secretary and sports editor for the school newspaper. She was also a Beta Club member and received awards in softball and cheerleading.

Her parents are Chris and Tonya Fortune.

Brewer, a sophomore elementary education major, is a graduate of Neshoba Central High School, where she was a special honor roll student and recipient of a public speaking award.

Her parents are Lisa Beckham and Greg Brewer.

Warrior Corps advisers are Lanette Hanna and Michael Alexander, academic counselors, and Romonica Evans, recruiter/Tech Prep Career Center director.

WEEK OF Oct. 22

East Central Community College Warrior Corps

East Central Community College students has named members of the Warrior Corps, students who assist in recruiting and serve as hosts and hostess for events on the Decatur campus, including, from left, first row, Emily Lanier, Sarah Eakes, Sharla Joyner, Samantha Clark, Adrienne Bird, Candi Vance, Hailey Walker, Elaina James, Brandie Davis, Carthage; Emily Thrash, Sebastopol; Calli Cumberland, Joy Hayes, Abby Thomas, Jalisa Smith, second row; Kylie Rigdon, Anna Laurie Ezelle, Amber Smith, Lindsey Stevens, Jana Johnson,,Meagan Cook, Carthage; Yentl Brantley Brittany Germany, Courtney Elkins, Reagan Joyner, Ashley Bradford, Ashley Fortune and Kasey Crutcher, both of Edinburg; Dru Anderson, Chelsey Vincent, third row; Amber Eaves, Sean Farmer, Julie Gaines, Jonathan Jackson, Beth Alexander, Lara Burt, Kenzie Gaines, Whitney Smith, Brookes Mayes, Liz Thorne, Lacey Brewer, Kayla Coward, Valerie Johnson, Brittany White, Connie Savell, Carthage; Kimberly Sanders, Edinburg; Nicole Dunavant, fourth row; Beth Ann Wade, Austin Crouther, Skye Tindall, Anna Johnson, Ashley Henley, Elizabeth Barney, Sebastopol; Leslie Nash, Kristina Ealy, Phillip Vines, Kayla Ann Fedrick, Carthage; Hannah Miles, Drew Gillis, Anna Rouse, Austin McNair, and Kolby Sisson.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF Oct. 22

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Johnson Joins EC Warrior Corps

Anna Johnson of Union was recently chosen a member of the East Central Community College Warrior Corps, a select group of students who assist in recruiting and serve as hosts and hostesses for various events on the Decatur campus.

Johnson, a freshman liberal arts major, is also a member of the Baptist Student Union and Centralettes, the dance line for the Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching Band.

She is a 2007 honor graduate of Union High School, where she served as president of the Beta Club and Fellowship of Christian Athletes, was treasurer for Future Business Leaders of America. She also served as class president and wash chosen Vo-Tech Student of the Year.

Her parents are Burl and Denise Johnson of Union.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF Oct. 29

Musicians for ECCC Gospel Choir alumni concert

Musicians for the first Gospel Choir Alumni Concert at East Central Community College are shown visiting with longtime choir director Brenda K. Johnson of Lawrence prior to the group's performance held recently in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Approximately 70 former gospel choir members participated in the special performance. From left are Austin Lloyd of Morton, Alex Gill of Walnut Grove, Mrs. Johnson, Johnathan Griffin of Philadelphia, Levar Robinson of Morton and Malcolm McBride of Forest. Johnson, who spearheaded reunion activities, has served as choir sponsor since 1988. The group was first formed in 1985 under the leadership of then sophomore Sharron Goodman-Hill, who is credited with writing the gospel choir's constitution bylaws, and Mrs. Lawrence Tingle of Newton, who served as the group's first director. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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See what happens *If A Man Answers*

EC Dinner Theater set open a 3-night run

Tickets ares till on sale for the East Central Community College Players' production of David Rogers' "If A Man Answers," to be staged November 8, 9 & 10 in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria on the Decatur campus.

The dinner theater performances are scheduled for seven o'clock each evening. Tickets are $12 each. To make reservations call the College switchboard at 601-635-2111 or toll free 1-877-462-3222.

This three-act comedy tells the story of Chantal Stacey, whose Parisian mother hands her a dog-training manual as the secret recipe for making a husband happy.

Cast members include Anna Laurie Ezelle as Chantal Stacey, Tyler Hansford as Gene Wright and Kylie Rigdon as Salome, all of Union; Aaron Morrison as John Stacey, Erin Tramill as Germaine Stacey, Brookes Mayes as Tina Brooks and Van Williams as Mr. Chadwick, all of Newton;

Rebecca Roland as Miss Kaye, India Dickerson as Conchita and Jennifer Sistrunk as the flower shop clerk, all of Carthage; Emilee Lanier as Belladonna and Nicole Dunavant as Europa, both of Little Rock; and J.B. Files of Noxapater as Robert Swan.

Beth Alexander of Little Rock serves as stage manager/understudy. Skye Apperson of Philadelphia is in charge of lights and sound and serves as an understudy.

Set designers include Christopher Buckley of Union, Tommy Carson of Decatur, Austin Lee of Forest and Christopher Merrell of Newton. Tanner Stuart of Walnut Grove serves as a stage hand/male understudy. ECCC Tech Prep Coordinator Joan Grimes of Union serves as director.

Cast members for the upcoming ECCC production of "If A Man Answers" include (seated, from left) Brookes Mayes of Newton, Anna Laurie Ezelle and Kylie Rigdon, both of Union and Jennifer Sistrunk of Carthage; and (standing, from left) Rebecca Roland of Carthage, Aaron Morrison of Newton, Tyler Hansford of Union and Erin Tramill of Newton. Not pictured are Van Williams of Newton, India Dickerson of Carthage, Emilee Lanier and Nicole Dunavant, both of Little Rock; and J.B. Files of Noxapater.

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New members of EC's Warroir

A select group of students who assist in recruiting and serve as hosts and hostesses for various events on the Decatur campus have recently been chosen to serve as members of the East CentralCommunity College Warrior Corps.

Warrior Corps advisers are Lanette Hanna and Michael Alexander, academic counselors, and Romonica Evans, recruiter/Tech Prep Career Center director.

Leslie Nash of Union a sophomore secondary education major, is also a member of the Wall O' Sound Marching Band, Collegians, Phi Beta Lambda, Phi Theta Kappa, President's Council and Gospel Choir.

Nash is an honor graduate of Union High School, where she was a National English Merit Scholar finalist, National Coca-Cola Scholar and National Speaking Contest finalist.

Her parents are Ex Earl and Mary Nash.

Beth Ann Wade of Union a freshman liberal arts major, is also a member of the Baptist Student Union.

She is a 2007 graduate of Union High School, where she received the "super student in geometry" award.

Joy Hayes of Decatur a freshman speech pathology major, is also a member of the Ac'cents show choir, Diamond Darlings and Baptist Student Union. In addition, she was recently selected a freshman homecoming maid.

Hayes is a 2007 highest honors graduate of Newton County High School, where she was a homecoming queen candidate, served as senior class secretary and was a member of the Beta Club.

Her parents are George and Lynn Hayes.

Nicole Dunavant of Little Rock a liberal arts major, is also a member of the Centralettes, the dance line for the Wall O' Sound Marching Band.

Dunavant is a 2007 graduate of Newton County High School, where she made the Principal's List and honor roll.

Emilee Lanier of Little Rock a freshman liberal arts major, is also a member of the Ac'cents show choir, concert choir, chamber choir and the Wall O' Sound Marching Band.

Lanier is a 2007 graduate of Newton County High School, where she was selected Most Likely to Succeed and received the outstanding choir member award.

Her parents are Mark and Dannette Lanier.

Lindsey Stevens of Decatur a sophomore nursing major, is also a member of the Lady Warrior softball team and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

The Newton County High School graduate is the daughter of Ricky and Brookes Stevens of Decatur.

Austin Crouthers of Decatur a freshman nursing major, is also a member of the Wall O' Sound Marching Band, Concert Choir and Chamber Choir.

He is a 2007 graduate of Newton County High School, where he received All-Superior ratings as drum major for two years and was named to Who's Who Among American High School Students. He was also a member of the National Honor Society.

He is the son of Paula and Travis Holcombe and the late Ollie S. Crouthers.

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Sarah Eakes of Little Rock a freshman liberal arts major, is a 2007 graduate of Newton County High School, where she was a President's List scholar.

Her parents are John and Lisa Eakes.

Several local young ladies work to enhance ECCC

From press reports

Coward Joins ECCC Warrior Corps

Kayla Coward of Noxapater was recently chosen a member of the East Central Community College Warrior Corps, a select group of students who assist in recruiting and serve as hosts and hostesses for various events on the Decatur campus.

Coward

Coward, a sophomore elementary education major, is also a member of the Baptist Student Union Council.

Coward is a graduate of Noxapater High School, where she was class valedictorian.

Her parents are James and Judy Coward.

Warrior Corps advisers are Lanette Hanna and Michael Alexander, academic counselors, and Romonica Evans, recruiter/Tech Prep Career Center director.

Smith Joins ECCC Warrior Corps

Jalisa Smith of Louisville was recently chosen a member of the East Central Community College Warrior Corps, a select group of students who assist in recruiting and serve as hosts and hostesses for various events on the Decatur campus.

Smith, a freshman liberal arts major, is also a member of the Baptist Student Union, EC Environmental Club and The Tom-Tom campus newspaper.

She is a 2007 graduate of Louisville High School, where she received a school spirit award.

J. Smith

She is the daughter of Felicia Smith of Louisville.

Warrior Corps advisers are Lanette Hanna and Michael Alexander, academic counselors, and Romonica Evans, recruiter/Tech Prep Career Center director.

Smith Chosen ECCC Warrior Corps Member

Whitney Smith of Louisville was recently chosen a member of the East Central Community College Warrior Corps, a select group of student who assist in recruiting and serve as hosts and hostesses for various events on the Decatur campus.

Smith, a freshman pre-nursing major, is also a member of the Baptist Student Union and Diamond Darlings.

W. Smith

She is a 2007 honor graduate of Winston Academy, where she served as Anchor Club treasurer and received the Bible Drill Award. She was also recognized as a Mississippi Scholar and was named to Who's Who Among American High School Students.

Her parents are J.T. and Dinah Smith of Louisville.

Warrior Corps advisers are Lanette Hanna and Michael Alexander, academic advisers, and Romonica Evans, recruiter/Tech Prep Career Center director.

Wright Joins ECCC Warrior Corps

Britni Wright of Louisville was recently chosen a member of the East Central Community College Warrior Corps, a select group of students who assist in recruiting and serve as hosts and hostesses for various events on the Decatur campus.

Wright

Wright, a sophomore liberal arts major, also serves as editor of the Wo-He-Lo yearbook and is a member of the concert and chamber choirs.

She is an honor graduate of Winston Academy, where she was named to the Hall of Fame and was recognized as a Mississippi Scholar. She was also a member of the National Honor Society.

Her parents are Ricky and Lesa Wright.

Warrior Corps advisers are Lanette Hanna and Michael Alexander, academic counselors, and Romonica Evans, recruiter/Tech Prep Career Center director.

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WEEK OF Oct. 29

Sisson joins ECCC Warrior Corps

Kolby Sisson of Noxapater was recently chosen a member of the East Central Community College Warrior Corps, a select group of students who assist in recruiting and serve as hosts and hostesses for various events on the Decatur campus.

Sisson, a freshman radiology major, is also a member of the Baptist Student Union.

Sisson graduated with distinction from Noxapater High School, where he was selected Mr. NHS and most dependable. In addition, he received the family dynamics/child development award and good citizenship award. He made the All-State team in power lifting and received the Tiger Award in football and most improved in basketball.

His parents are Glenn and Tammy Sisson of Philadelphia.

Warrior Corps advisers are Lanette Hanna and Michael Alexander, academic counselors, and Romonica Evans, recruiter/Tech Prep Career Center director.

Sisson

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WEEK OF Nov. 5

EC fine arts festival is Nov. 15th

Musical and artistic talents of East Central Community College students will be presented and on display when the annual Fall Arts Festival is held Thursday, November 15, 2007, in the Vickers Fine Arts Center on the Decatur campus.

Activities begin with a 7 p.m. performance by the ECCC Concert Choir and Chamber Singers, directed by Len D. Bobo. Natalie Emmons serves as accompanist.

The theme of this year's presentation is "We Are the Music Makers," taken from a poem by the same name written by British poet Arthur W. O' Shaughnessy.

Bobo said the centerpiece of the program is music from the Broadway musical, Jekyll and Hyde, and features soloists Drew Harrison and Emilee Lanier, both of Little Rock; Aaron Mann of Carthage, Hillary Rieger of Pearl and the Concert Choir.

Also featured with be a Christmas Carol sing-a-log with the audience and choir; Christmas music sung by the choir; and a speech choir piece performed by the Chamber Singers.

Other music selections include Great High Mountain from the movie, Cold Mountain, and Come to the Music written by Joseph Martin and sung by the Chamber Singers.

The program ends with Why We Sing by Greg Gilpin and sung by the Concert Choir.

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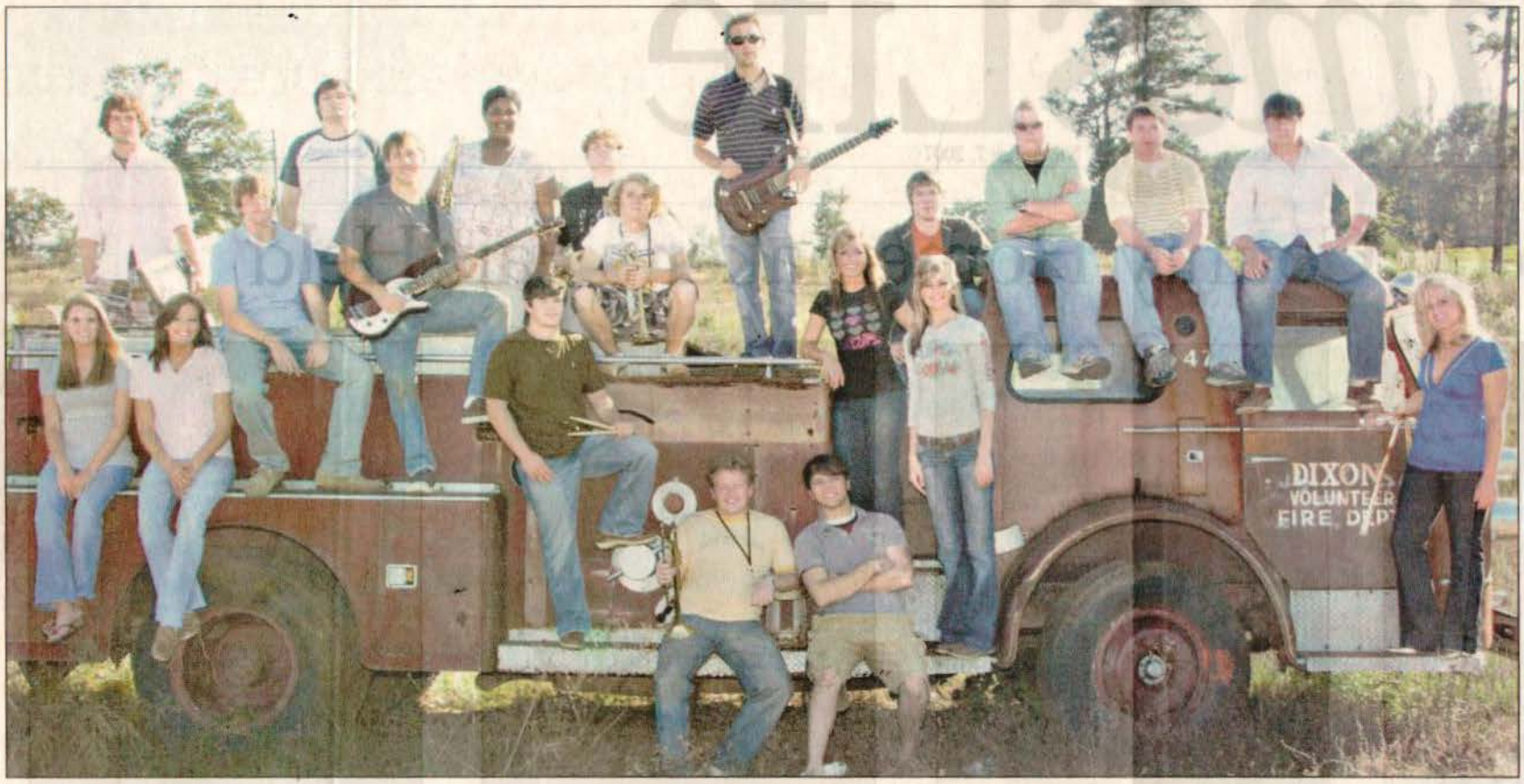

ECCC PHOTO

COLLEGIANS TO PRESENT CAMPUS CONCERT NOV. 12

The Collegians, East Central Community College's rock-n-roll band, will present their fall campus concert Monday, Nov. 12, at 8 p.m. in Huff Auditorium. The popular group will perform hits by Daughtry, LeAnn Rimes, Pink, and many other artists. Special guests will be Larry Blackburn and friends. Collegian members and their respective high schools include (front row, from left) Connie Savell (percussion), Carthage; Lana Adkins (vocals), Union; Nathan Spears (vocals), Neshoba Central; Kyle Barrett (bass), Ryan Monk (drums), Drew Gillis (trumpet) and Drew Harrison (vocals), all of Newton County; Jordan Taylor (vocals), Central Academy in Macon; Kelly Kight (vocals), Nanih Waiya; and Carmen Ezell (vocals), Newton County; and (back row, from left) Aaron Mann (keyboard), Carthage; Dustin Gibbs (technician), Lake; Leslie Nash (tenor sax), Union; Brent Cumberland (alto sax) and Graylon Foster (trumpet), both of Philadelphia; Casey Stokes (guitar), Neshoba Central; Anthony Williams technician), Newton County; Josh Talbert (technician), a home-school student from Newton; Andy Ladd (technician), Philadelphia; and Clay Winstead (technician), Neshoba Central. Not pictured is Whitney Lott (technician) of Newton County and director Thomas W. Carson, who also plays guitar.

WEEK OF Nov. 5

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IMPACT ____
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ____
SPIRIT OF MORTON ____
OTHER ____

WEEK OF Nov. 5

Play on tap

The ECCC Players' will present David Rogers' "If A Man Answers," at 7 p.m. November 8-10, 2007. The annual dinner theater will be held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria on the Decatur campus. Thursday and Friday performances are sold out; however, Saturday night tickets are available for $12 each by calling the College switchboard at 601-635-2111 or toll free 1-877-462-3222. Cast members shown in costume prior to their three-night run include (seated, from left) Kylie Rigdon of Union, Erin Tramill of Newton, Anna Laurie Ezelle of Union, Brookes Mayes of Newton and Emilee Lanier and Nicole Dunavant, both of Little Rock; and (standing, from left) Jonathan Federick of Hickory, Jennifer Sistrunk of Carthage, Aaron Morrison of Newton, Tyler Hansford of Union, J.B. Files of Noxapater and Rebecca Roland of Carthage.

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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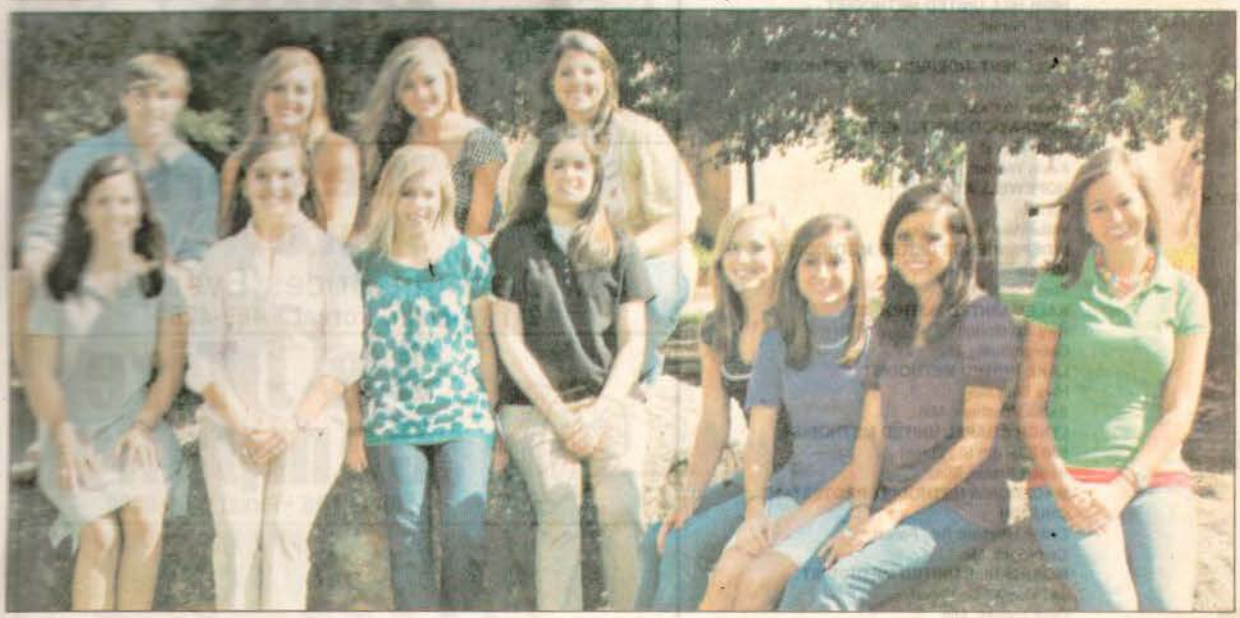

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC CLASS OFFICERS ANNOUNCED

These students currently serve as officers of the Student Body Association and freshman and sophomore classes at East Central Community College in Decatur. Seated from left are SBA officers Dru Anderson, president, and Maegan Johnston, vice president, both of Decatur; Julie Gains, secretary, of Philadelphia; and Brookes Mayes, treasurer, of Newton; and freshman class officers Emily Thrash, president of Sebastopol; Calli Cumberland, vice president, and Candi Vance, secretary, both of Decatur; and Adrienne Bird, treasurer, of Morton. Kneeling on the second row, from left, are sophomore officers Austin McNair, president, of Philadelphia; Jordan Taylor, vice president, of Macon; and Kelly Kight, secretary, and Amber Eaves, treasurer, both of Nanih Waiya.

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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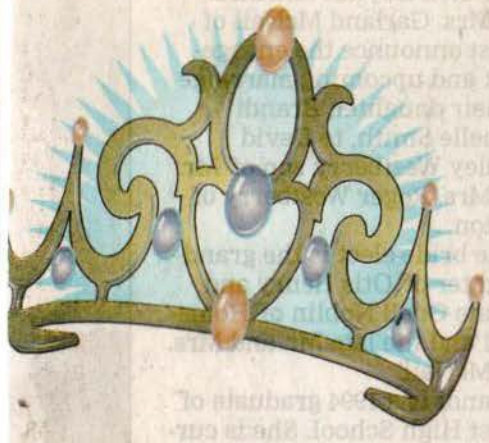
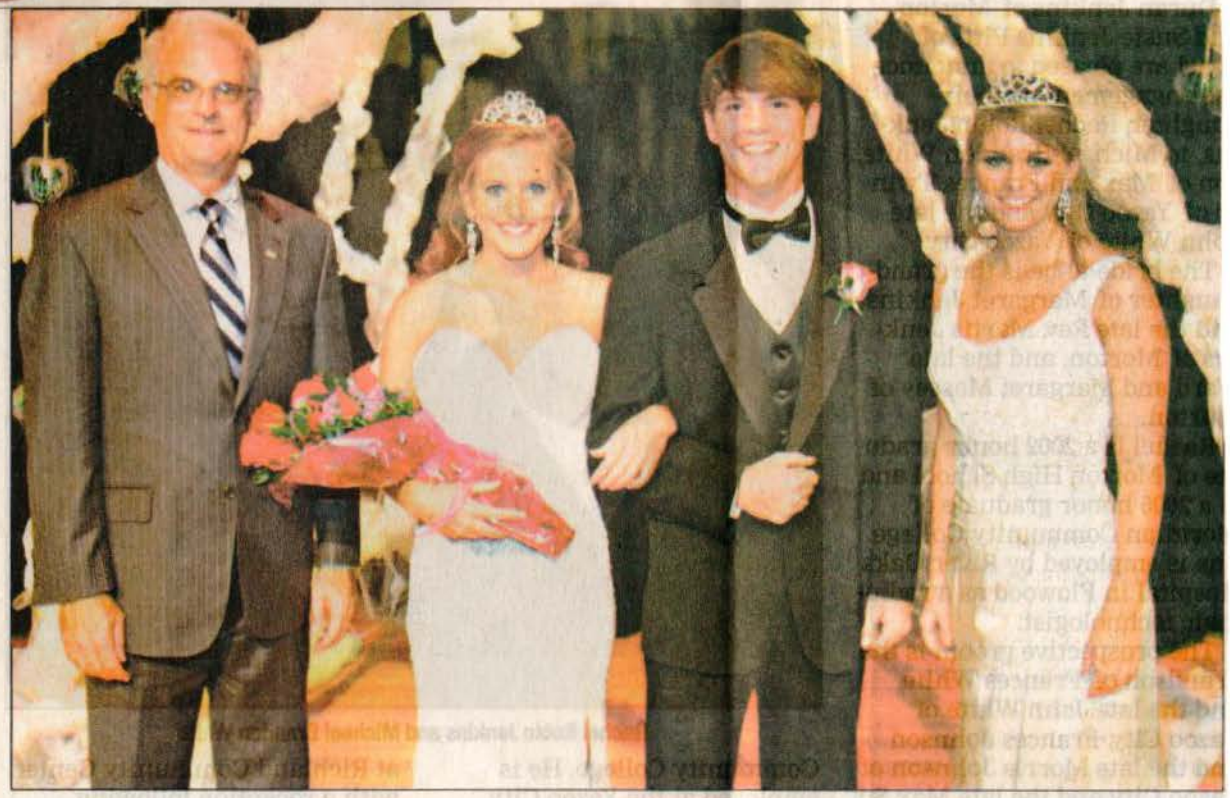


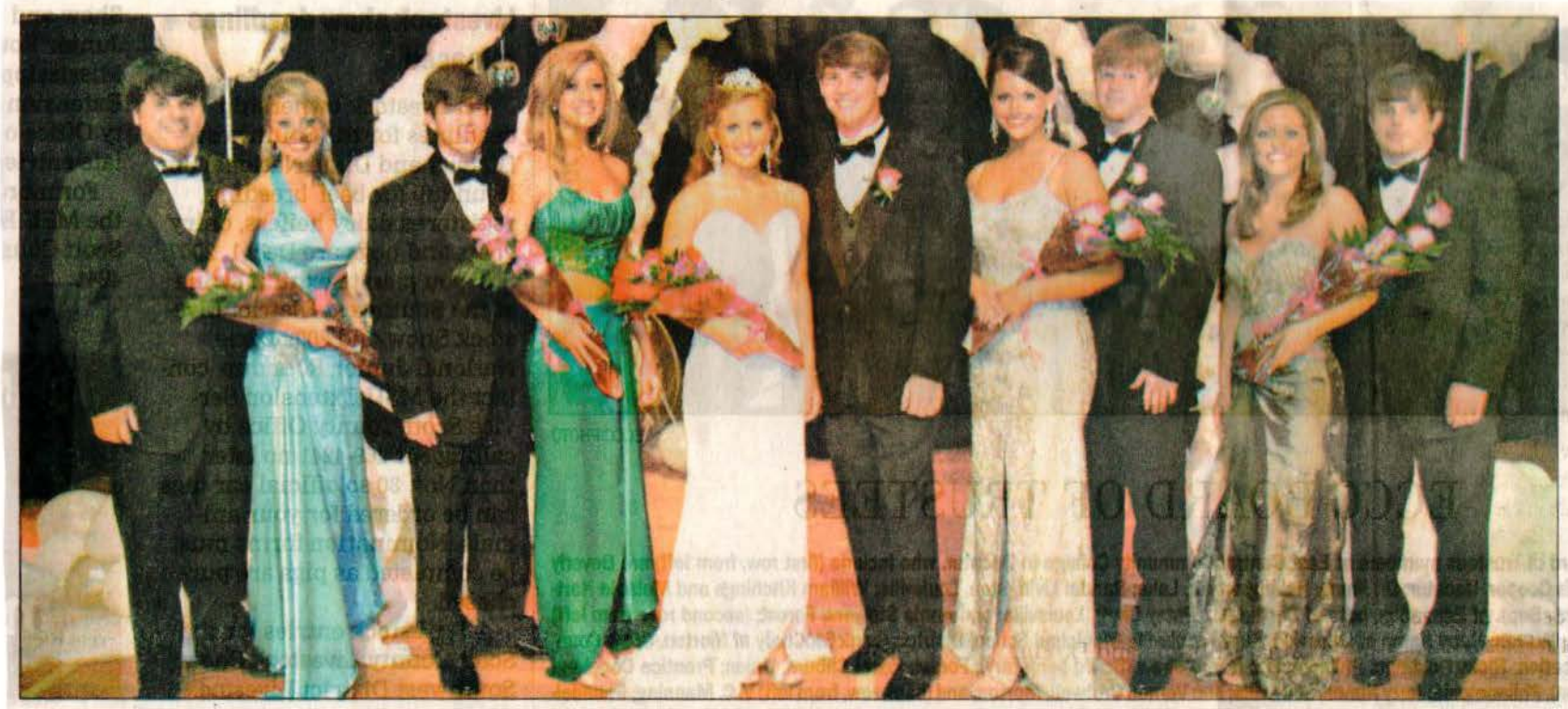
Thrash Named ECCC's Most Beautiful



ECCC PHOTO

THRASH CROWNED ECCC'S MOST BEAUTIFUL

Emily Thrash (second from left) of Sebastopol and Sam Lewis (third from left) of Decatur were recently selected Most Beautiful and Most Handsome at East Central Community College in Decatur. Also pictured is ECCC President Dr. Phil Sutphin (left), who crowned Most Beautiful, and 2006 winner Caylee Sullivan, who presented the new titleholder with a bouquet of roses.



ECCC PHOTO

ECCC BEAUTIES, BEAUS

Emily Thrash (fifth from left) of Sebastopol and Sam Lewis (sixth from left) of Decatur were recently selected Most Beautiful and Most Handsome, respectively, at East Central Community College in Decatur. Also pictured are beauties and beaus (from left) Rick Parks of Philadelphia, Brittany White of Union, Hunter Hayes of Decatur, Kelly Kight of Louisville, Erin Slay of Brandon, Andrew Marshall of Decatur, Jordan Taylor of Macon and Ryan Monk of Lake.

WEEK OF Nov. 12

ECCC top ten

ECCC Top Ten Beauties
These young ladies were recently named Top Ten Beauties at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured are (from left) Brittany White of Union, Beth Alexander of Little Rock, Candi Vance of Decatur, Kelly Kight of Nanih Waiya, Dekota Anthony of Philadelphia, Emily Thrash (most beautiful) of Sebastopol, Kacy Covert of Collinsville, Amber Madison of Philadelphia, Erin Slay of Brandon and Jordan Taylor of Macon.

APPEARED IN:

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UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

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IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Nov. 12

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

ECCC Artwork

ECCC Students To Display Artwork

Above is just some of the artwork that will be on display when East Central Community College holds its annual Fall Fine Arts Festival scheduled Thursday, Nov. 15, 2007, in the Vickers Fine Arts Center on the Decatur campus. Activities begin with a 7 p.m. concert featuring the College's Concert Choir and Chamber Singers. Music instructors Len Bobo and Natalie Emmons serve as director and accompanist, respectively. A reception to showcase student artwork follows the performance. Among students participating in the art show are (from left) Jerome Thompson, Philadelphia; Chris Merrell, Newton; Bradley Reynolds, Noxapater; Keia Eichelberger and Ian Whitney, both of Louisville; and Josh Moore, Newton. All are students of art instructor Bruce Guraedy.

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IMPACT

SPIRIT OF MORTON

OTHER

WEEK OF Nov. 12

ECCC PHI BETA LAMBDA OFFICERS: Phi Beta Lambda officers for the 2007-08 term at East Central Community College in Decatur include (from left) Leslie Nash of Union, president; Katie Anthony of Philadelphia, co-historian; Terry Smith of Louisville, vice president; Brookes Mayes of Newton, secretary; Pamela Boone of Carthage, treasurer; Kristen Alsup of Little Rock, parliamentarian; and Felicia Futch of Forest, reporter. Not pictured is William Cumberland of Philadelphia, co-historian. Christy Ferguson serves as sponsor.

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UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

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IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Nov. 19

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ECCC Presidents Council

Pictured above are members of the East Central Community College Presidents Council, which includes representatives of all campus organizations at the College. The group meets monthly with ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin and Joe Killens, vice president for student services. Council members and their respective organization include (seated, from left) Dr. Sutphin; Beth Alexander of Little Rock, Phi Theta Kappa; Maegan Johnston of Decatur, Sigma Sigma Mu Tau; Drew Gillis of Decatur, Collegians; and Killens; (second row, from left) Austin McNair of Philadelphia, Sophomore Class; Emily Thrash of Sebastopol, Freshman Class; Yentl Brantley of Lake, Student Education Association; Candace Long of Union, Wo-He-Lo; Dru Anderson of Decatur, Student Body Association; Britni Wright of Louisville, Wo-He-Lo; Brookes Mayes of Newton, ECCC Players; Annie Strohm of Morton, EC Environmental Club; and Elaina James of Montrose, Cheerleaders; and (back row, from left) Delynn Agee of Choctaw, Native American Club; Doug Kelley of Sebastopol, ASNEC; Amber Griffin of Carthage, Gospel Choir; Evan Smart of Philadelphia, SkillsUSA; Kyle Barrett of Decatur, Ac'cents; Heath Street of Lake, Alpha Alpha Epsilon; and Leslie Nash of Philadelphia, Phi Beta Lambda.

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UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL √

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WEEK OF Nov. 19

ECCC Ac'cents to Present Concert Dec. 6...The East Central Community College Ac'cents show choir will present its fall campus concert at 7 p.m. Thursday, December 6, in Vickers Fine Arts Auditorium on the Decatur campus. The public is invited and admission is free. The popular group will present such hits as "Don't Stop" by Fleetwood Mac, "Do I Make You Proud" as performed by Taylor Hicks, Raschal Flatts' "Life Is A Highway," and "Behind These Hazel Eyes" by Kelly Clarkson. Members include (front row, from left) Drew Harrison of Little Rock and Dekota Anthony of Philadelphia; (second row, from left) Logan McDonald of Conehatta, Joy Hayes of Decatur, Aaron Mann of Carthage, Emilee Lanier of Little Rock and Dru Anderson and Noah Cook, both of Decatur; and (back row, from left) Brent Cumberland of Philadelphia (sound technician), Maegan Johnston and Kyle Barrett, both of Decatur; Ryan Reeves of Forest, Carmen Ezell of Decatur and Jonathan Crabtree of Vicksburg (sound technician). Vicki Blaylock serves as director. (EC Photo)

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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WEEK OF Nov. 19

ECCC Who's Who includes Leake students

East Central Community College is again well represented on the list of students named to *Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges*.

Those selected for the prestigious publication are nominated by faculty and staff and chosen based on academic achievement and involvement in extracurricular clubs and organizations on the Decatur campus.

Honorees for 2007-08 include the following:

Leake County: Pamela Boone, Lucy Diane Burns, Tommy Gene Deason, Alexandra Lee Harris, Katherine Elizabeth Taylor, Rebecca Carol Wilbanks and Traci Wilson, all of Carthage; and Courtney Nicole Elkins, Lena;

Neshoba County: Rachel Chappel, Lucretia Fulton, Julie Gaines, Austin McNair, Travis Randall Page, Katrina Patie, Brittany Anna White and Whitnee Leigh White, all of Philadelphia;

Newton County: Carol Beth Alexander, Joshua N. Sheehan and Robert Bailey Westbrook, all of Little Rock; Ashley Dru Anderson, Kyle Barrett, Christy Lynn Ezell, Caitlin Harper, Apryl Suzanne Henry, Maegan Johnston, Whitney Suzanne Knight, Joseph M. McDonald, Mandy Yvette Richardson, Crystal Megan Shoemaker, Lindsey Brooke Stevens and Chelsey LuAnn Vincent, all of Decatur;

Richardson L. Chickaway, Conehatta; Noah Cook, Ashley Nicole Henley and Jonathan LeShaun Jackson, all of Hickory; Drew Morgan Gillis and Brookes Mayes, both of Newton; Kenneth Darryl Hudson, Candace Dawn Long and Leslie Nash, all of Union; and Jana Nicole Johnson, Chunky.

Scott County: Jack Anthony Anderson, Amneris Avalos, Candice Laine Ezell and Carli Nicole O'Steen, all of Morton; Marty Ann Bergin, Keith Walter Brown, Joseph T. Cieglo, Felicia Futch, Chris W. Harrison and James Ryan Reeves, all of Forest; and Dollye Packer, Lake;

Winston County: Nichole Alicia Ball, Lara Burt, Trenton Cockrell, Amber Eaves, Kiel Martin Higginbotham, Kelly Kight, Tyler McCool, Hannah Miles and Carlos Rice, all of Louisville; and

Out-of-District: India Curry, Bay Springs; Jeff Grimsel, Vicksburg; Kimberly Dawn Hull, Meridian; Elaina Marie James, Louin; Valerie Johnson, Preston; Debbie Lynn Lawrence, Kosciusko; McClain Mullins, Tupelo; Jordan Taylor, Macon; and Brooke White, Florence.

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UNION APPEAL

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

SPIRIT OF MORTON

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WEEK OF Nov. 19

Winston Wall O'Sound band members

These East Central Community College students from Winston County are members of the Wall O' Sound Marching Band for 2007-08. Pictured are (first row, from left) Brandi Tollett and Lara Burt, both of Louisville; Kelly Kight and Latrice Waters, both of Nanih Waiya; Tiffany Thomas, Winston Academy; and Missy Williamson and Erica Davenport, both of Louisville; (second row, from left) Christina Hopkins, Terry Smith, Marie Hannah, Andrekia Miller, Tiera Hughes and Justin Boone, all of Louisville; and (top row, from left) Neil Smith, Andrew Haynes, Stephen Coleman, Paul Edwards and Tierra Murff, all of Louisville. Thomas W. Carson serves as director of bands and Jared Brownlee is assistant director.

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UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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WEEK OF Nov. 19

Leake 'Wall O' Sound' members

East Central Community College students from Leake County who are members of the Wall O' Sound Marching Band for 2007-08 include, first row, from left, Cristen Jones, Connie Savell and Calvin Griffin, all of Carthage; Lacy McMurry, Edinburg; and Emily Malone and Olivia Scott, both of Carthage; and, back, from left, Amber Griffin and Aaron Mann, both of Carthage; Ben Ingram, Leake Academy; and Philip Stovall, Robin Brown, Lucy Burns and Ruby McCurdy, all of Carthage. Thomas W. Carson serves as director of bands and Jared Brownlee is assistant band director.

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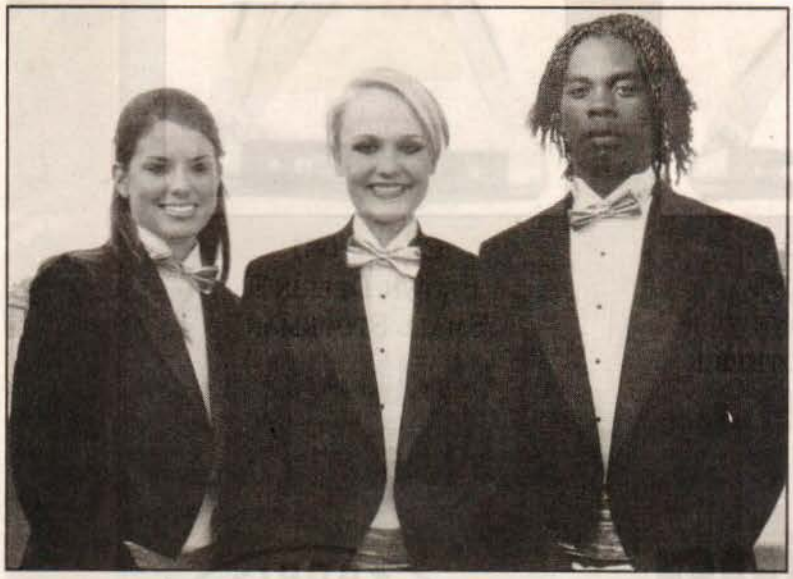
WEEK OF Nov. 19



ECCC drum majors

Serving as drum majors for East Central Community College's Wall O'Sound Marching Band during 2007-08 are, from left, Kristen Chamblee, Forest, Candy Ezell, head, Morton, and Calvin Griffin, Carthage. Thomas W. Carson serves as director of bands and Jared Brownlee is assistant director.

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CARTHAGINIAN √

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

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WEEK OF Nov. 19

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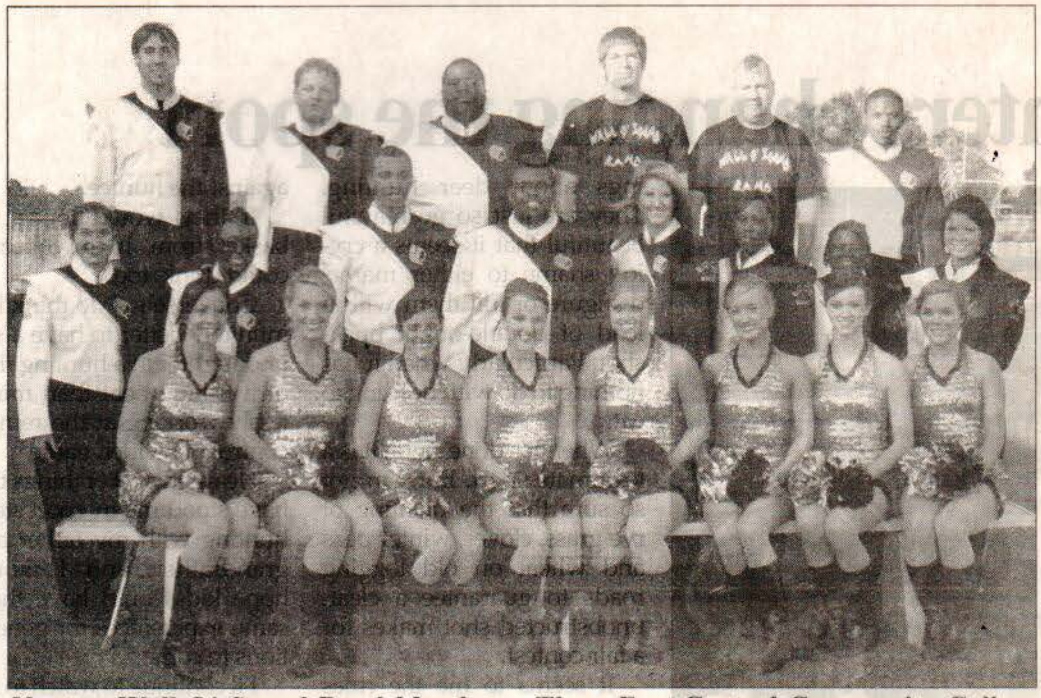

Newton Wall O' Sound Band Members...These East Central Community College students from Newton County are members of the Wall O' Sound Marching Band for 2007-08. Pictured are (first row, from left) Lana Adkins and Anna Johnson, both of Union; Candi Vance, Newton County; Brittany Germany, Union; Carmen Ezell, Newton County; Krystle Wolverton, Union; Nicole Dunavant, Newton County; and Jessica Galloway, Union; (second row, from left) Emilee Lanier and Shardae Foley, both of Newton County; Van Williams, Newton; Austin Crouther, Newton County; Anna Rouse, Union; Kenyana Rivers, Newton; Victoria York, Union; and Lacy Loper, Newton County; and (top row, from left) Kyle Barrett and Drew Gillis, both of Newton County; Aaron Johnson, Newton; Anthony Williams, Newton County; Josh Talbert, Newton; and Jonathan Jackson, Newton County. Thomas W. Carson serves as director of bands and Jared Brownlee is assistant director. (EC Photo)

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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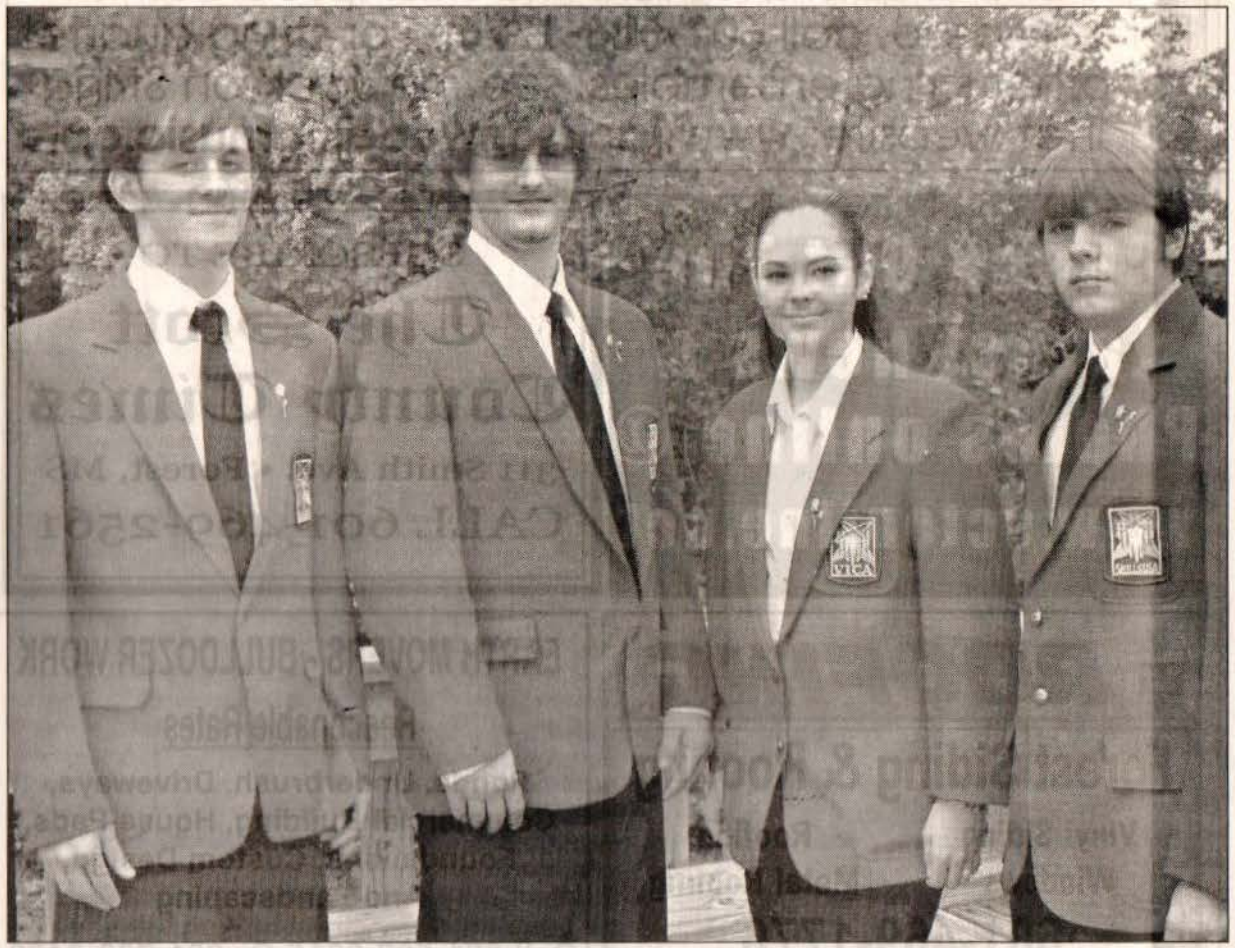
WEEK OF Nov. 19



ECCC PHOTO

ECCC'S SKILLSUSA OFFICERS

These career-technical students at East Central Community College in Decatur serve as 2007-08 officers for the College's SkillsUSA chapter. From left are Evan Smart (electrical technology) of Mooreville, president; Brad Latham (welding and cutting) of Lena, vice president; Mindy Parker (carpentry and cabinetmaking) of Decatur, secretary; and Logan McDonald (electrical technology) of Conehatta, parliamentarian.

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ECCC Enviromental Club

Members of the East Central Community College Environmental Club for the 2007-08 term include (front row, from left) advisers and science instructors Curt Skipper, Sharon LeJeune and Joe Johnson (division chairman); (second row, from left) Ryan Loper of Decatur, Amber Eaves of Lousiville, Cheryll Dowell, Lorie Jenkins, Britni Harvey and India Dickerson, all of Carthage; Rebecca Watkins of Philadelphia and Sandy Penn of Forest; (third row, from left) Melanie Eaves and Nichole Ball, both of Louisville; Tanika Robinson and Teresa Gibbs, both of Forest; Latasha Watkins of Sebastopol, Amanda Jones of Decatur, Kolby Sisson of Noxapapter and Annie Strohm of Morton; and (third row, from left) Tim Seibel of Lawrence, Tim Zetterholm of Byram and Caiti Slay of Forest.

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Nov. 19

Neshoba Wall O' Sound Band members

These East Central Community College students from Neshoba County are members of the Wall O' Sound Marching Band for 2007-08. Pictured are (first, row, from left) Tashia Williamson and Tashina Taylor, both of Choctaw Central; Skye Apperson, Racheal Day, Reagan Joyner and Crystal Walker, all of Neshoba Central; and Celeste Franklin, DeAndra Graham and Erin Warren, all of Philadelphia; (second row, from left) Brett Latimer, Neshoba Central; Graylon Foster, Cassidy Byars and Ricky Rickles, all of Philadelphia; Liz Thorne, Nathan Spears, Dustin Moore, Brewer McGee and Rhonda Houston, all of Neshoba Central; William Cumberland, Philadelphia; Skyler Steele, Neshoba Central; and Monica Chesney, Union; and (top row, from left) Justin Weathers, Philadelphia; Casey Stokes, Neshoba Central; Corey Sharp, Philadelphia; Leslie Nash, Union; Clay Winstead, Matt Woods, John David Bates and Andrew Ladd, all of Neshoba Central. Thomas W. Carson serves as director of bands and Jared Brownlee is assistant director. (EC Photo)

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

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UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

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IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Nov. 26

Scott Wall O' Sound Band Members

These East Central Community College students from Scott County are members of the Wall O' Sound Marching Band for 2007-08. Pictured are (first row, from left) Yentl Brantley, Lake; Brooke Culpepper, Scott Central; Marty Ann Bergin and Kristen Chamblee, both of Forest; Candy Ezell, Morton; Courtney Elkins, Forest; Becky Culpepper, Scott Central; and Elizabeth Barney, Sebastopol; (second row, from left) Margie Black, Lake; Kayla Crane and Amneris Avalos, both of Morton; Amber Wall, Scott Central; Wendy Cater and Brandy Gomillion, both of Sebastopol; Paula Parker, Morton; and Teriette Weidman, Courtney Gammill and Brittany Gibbs, all of Lake; and (back row, from left) Marvin Flucker and Matthew Moore, both of Morton; Freddrick Burks, Forest; Jasmine Earby, Morton; and Kristina Ealy and Courtney Patrick, both of Forest. Thomas W. Carson serves as director of bands and Jared Brownlee is assistant director. (EC Photo)

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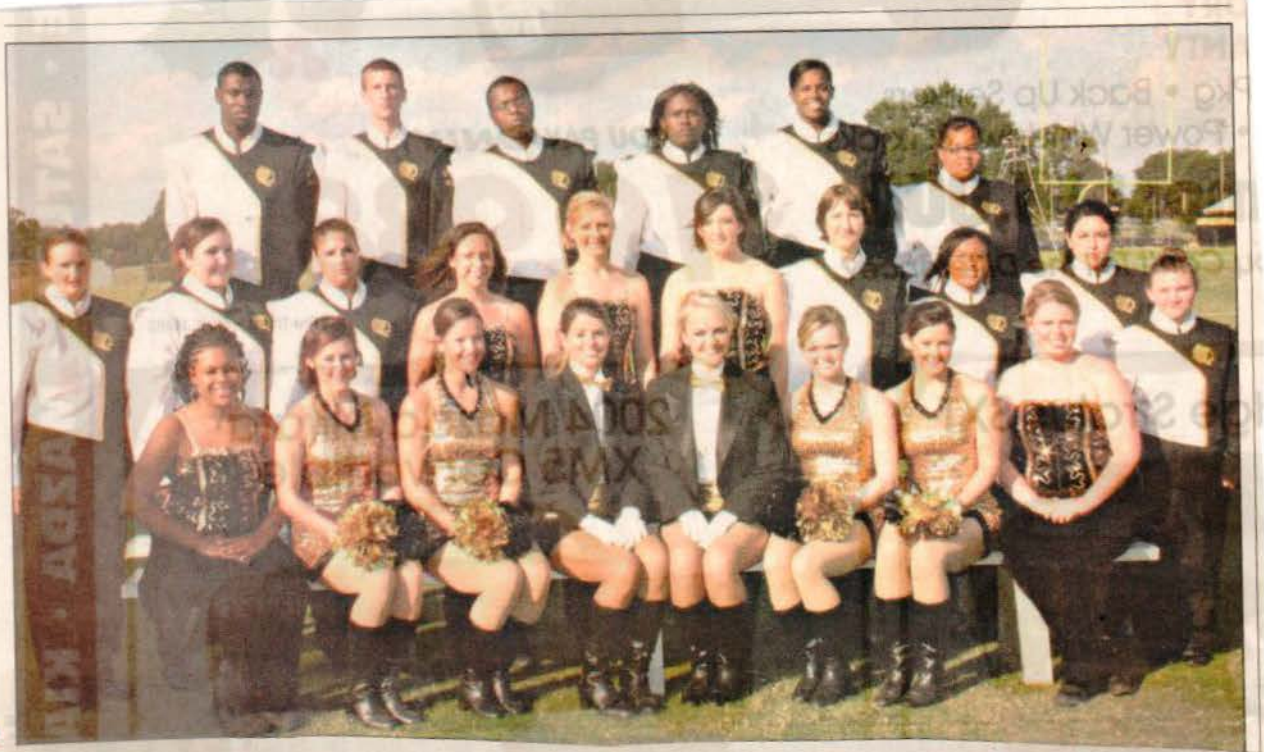
WEEK OF Dec. 3



SCOTT WALL O' SOUND BAND MEMBERS

These East Central Community College students from Scott County are members of the Wall O' Sound Marching Band for 2007-08. Pictured are (first row, from left) Yenti Brantley, Lake; Brooke Culpepper, Scott Central; Marty Ann Bergin and Kristen Chamblee, both of Forest; Candy Ezell, Morton; Courtney Elkins, Forest; Becky Culpepper, Scott Central; and Elizabeth Barney, Sebastopol; (second row, from left) Margie Black, Lake; Kayla Crane and Amneris Avalos, both of Morton; Amber Wall, Scott Central; Wendy Cater and Brandy Gomillion, both of Sebastopol; Paula Parker, Morton; and Terlette Weldman, Courtney Gammill and Brittany Gibbs, all of Lake; and (back row, from left) Marvin Flucker and Matthew Moore, both of Morton; Freddrick Burks, Forest; Jasmine Earby, Morton; and Kristina Ealy and Courtney Patrick, both of Forest. Thomas W. Carson serves as director of bands and Jared Brownlee is assistant director.

APPEARED IN:

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Dec. 10

ECCC hands out awards in

Football and soccer players and members of the cheerleading squad for 2007 were honored during East Central Community College's Fall Sports Banquet held recently on the Decatur campus.

ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin was among presenters at the annual ceremony, and recognized student athletes who received academic awards. Additional honors were presented by coaches of each sport and the cheerleading sponsor. Letters were presented to all sophomore athletes.

Team awards in football were presented to cornerback Fredrick Lyons, a product of Newton County High School, Academic Award; nose guard Henry Scott of Will Rogers High School in Tulsa, Okla., most valuable defensive lineman; guard James Jenkins of Columbus, offensive team captain and most valuable offensive lineman; free safety Ray Frierson, a product of Hillcrest High School in Tuscaloosa, Kemba Bryant Most Valuable Defensive Back; offensive tackle John Bailey of Hillcrest HS in Tuscaloosa, defensive lineman Mark Hoskins of Louisville and linebacker Jamar Lawrence of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County, Warrior Award; linebacker David Brackett of Philadelphia, defensive team captain; and running back Roosevelt Ross, a product of Ocala-Forest HS in Ocala, Fla., most valuable player and most valuable offensive back.

Ross was also recognized for being named honorable mention J. C. Grid-Wire All-American, All-Region 23 and first team All-State.

Ross, who is among numerous Warriors expected to sign mid-year scholarships at four-year schools and universities, finished second in the state in rushing with 695 yards on 98 carries, a 7.1-yard average. He also scored eight touchdowns. Ross missed the last two games of the season due to a knee injury. LeGarrette Blount of East Mississippi Community College was the top rusher with 1,042 yards on 178 carries – a 5.9-yard average - through nine games. He scored six touchdowns.

Frierson was also chosen All-Region 23, first team All-State and participated in the annual MACJC All-Star Classic. He led ECCC in interceptions with three.

Warriors receiving second team All-State honors include quarterback Deon Williams, a product of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County High School; wide receiver Freddie Parham, of St. Clair County HS in Margaret, Ala.; offensive lineman James Jenkins of Columbus; return specialist Maurice Langston, of Northeast Lauderdale High School in Meridian; nose guard Henry Scott, of Will Rogers High School in Tulsa, Okla.; and David Brackett of Philadelphia.

Williams completed 57-of-121 passes for 942 yards and nine touchdowns. He had four interceptions. Williams, who averaged 104.7 yards passing per contest, finished the season with a league-best 130.4 rating in pass efficiency.

Brackett, who was also chosen on the J.C. Grid-Wire All-American honorable mention squad, was one of the state's top tacklers all season and finished in third place with 81 solo stops and 30 assists. Scott had 63 tackles and 19 assists.

Williams joined Frierson and offensive lineman Marquis Harris of Meridian, tight end Spencer Spane of Terry, linebacker Jamar Lawrence of Tucaloosa County and cornerback Dameon Brown of Thomastown on the South squad in the MACJC All-Star Classic held Dec 1 at Northeast Mississippi Community College in Booneville. The North All-Stars won the annual matchup 17-14.

Harris, Spane, Lawrence, Brown and Lyons also received honorable mention All-State honors along with linebacker Harvey Brown of Neshoba Central, wide receiver Kendrick May and defensive end Josh Lewis, both of Tuscaloosa County; cornerback Travis Robinson and offensive tackle John Bailey, both of Hillcrest HS in Tuscaloosa, defensive lineman Quan Lowe of Holt High School in Tuscaloosa, wide receiver Michael Townsend of Forest, running back Lamario Hopson of Meridian, wide receiver Katlan French of Starkville Academy, defensive end Chris Ivy, defensive linemen Ken Whitfield and Mark Hoskins, and strong safety Ken Coleman, all of Louisville; linebacker Vonzell Jackson of Aliceville, Ala.; kicker/punter Beau Han-

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annual fall sports banquet

nah of Morton, fullback Courtney Shelton of Tuscaloosa Academy, kicker/punter Derek Crenshaw of Neshoba Central and offensive lineman Justin Moore of Leake Academy.

Football awards were presented by head coach Terry Underwood and assistants Fred Lyons, James Miller, Steve Cheatham, Kyle Watson and Brian Jones.

Soccer

Award winners in women's soccer included midfielder Jana Johnson of Newton County, Academic and Warrior awards; midfielder Skye Tindall of Newton County Academy, hustle award; forward/midfielder Meagan Munn of Newton County, best offensive player and All-State; forward Brooke White of Florence, most valuable player, team captain and All-Region 23; defender Kimbo Seale of Clarkdale, best defensive player; midfielder/forward Megan Klauck of Neshoba Central, most improved; and keeper Kaley Ball of Laurel, honorable mention All-State.

White finished sixth in South Division scoring and 11th in the state with eight goals and 10 assists. Munn, who had eight goals and four assists, placed 10th among South Division scorers and finished 17th in the state.

The Lady Soccer Warriors were recognized as this year's recipient of the MACJC Tom Shepherd Sportsmanship Award. The award is presented to the women and men's soccer team with the fewest number of cards (fouls) assessed during season competition. The ECCC women received just one yellow card for the 2007 campaign.

Recipients of men's soccer awards included midfielder Noah Cook of Newton County, Academic Award; defender/midfielder Justin Traylor of Florence, hustle award; midfielder Sam Wilson of Meridian, most valuable, best offensive player and All-State; midfielder Josh Moore, a product of Walker (Ala.) High School now residing in Newton, team captain and Warrior Award; midfielder Sam Lewis of Newton County, most improved; and midfielder Jerrid Hickman of Mendenhall, best defensive player.

Awards were presented by head coach Kenneth Thompson.

Cheerleader

Cheerleaders receiving honors included Dru Anderson of Newton County, Academic Award; Dustin Evans of Collins, Tavares Walker of Morton and Elaina James of Sylva Bay Academy, Captain awards; Noah Cook of Newton County and Emily Thrash of Sebastopol, most improved; Austin McNair of Neshoba Central and Kacy Covert of West Lauderdale, Best All-Around; and Phillip Vines of Neshoba Central and Adam Brown of Lake, Warrior Award.

Cheerleader sponsor Huellen Watson presented awards.

WEEK OF Dec. 10

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC CHEERLEADER AWARD WINNERS

These East Central Community College cheerleaders received various honors at the annual Fall Sports Banquet held recently on the Decatur campus. Seated from left are Dru Anderson, a product of Newton County High School, Academic Award; and Dustin Evans of Collins, Tavares Walker of Morton and Elaina James of Sylva Bay Academy, Captain Awards. Standing from left are Noah Cook of Newton County and Emily Thrash of Sebastopol, most improved; Kacy Covert of West Lauderdale, Best All-Around; and Adam Brown of Lake, Warrior Award. Also receiving awards were Austin McNair, Best All-Around and Phillip Vines, Warrior Award, both of Neshoba Central. ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin and cheerleader sponsor Huellen Watson presented awards.

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Dec. 10

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC CONCERT CHOIR PERFORMS

Above are members of the East Central Community Concert Choir who recently presented their fall concert in the Vickers Fine Arts Center on the Decatur campus. Choir members and their hometowns include (first row, from left) Len Bobo, director, of Union: Rachel Thompson, Philadelphia; Beth Alexander, Little Rock; Brandi Ricks, Forest; Mark Watson, Meridian; Tyree Satcher, Pachuta; Dimario Parks, Louisville; Jonathan Crabtree, Vicksburg; Santious Culpepper, Forest; Alyssa Alderman, Philadelphia; Anna Laurie Ezelle, Union; and Natalie Emmons, accompanist, of Lake; (second row, from left) Angela Moore, Lake; Carrie Stokes, Philadelphia; Britni Wright, Louisville; Lucy Burns, Carthage; Caleb Cook, Hickory; Dexter McDonald, Jackson; Whitney Lott and Anthony Williams, both of Decatur; Jared Hollingsworth, Newton; Hillary Rieger, Pearl; Emilee Lanier, Little Rock; and Sherri Smith, Louisville; (third row, from left) Patience Haynes, Noxapater; Caitlin Puckett, Louisville; Brittany Tyson, Beulah Hubbard; Jalde Horn, Carthage; Brittany Bobo, Union; McClain Mullins, Tupelo; William Zynosky-Sharpling, Decatur; Noah Cook, Hickory; Aaron Johnson, Newton; Chelsey Vincent, Decatur; Meagan Cook, Carthage; Suzanne Henry, Decatur; and Nichole Ball, Louisville; and (fourth row, from left) Latasha Warren, Union; Tyrra Evans, Lake; Cristen Jones, Carthage; Kristie Robinson, Forest; Kyle Barrett, Decatur; Aaron Mann, Carthage; Ronnie White, Forest; Terry Smith, Louisville; Drew Harrison, Little Rock; Logan McDonald, Conehatta; Lee Taylor, Forest; Austin Couther, Decatur; Van Williams, Newton: Emily Wynne, Lake; Candi Vance, Decatur; and Erica Unwin, Union.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN

SCOTT COUNTY

UNION APPEAL

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

SPIRIT OF MORTON

OTHER

MERIDIAN STAR

CLARION-LEDGER

IMPACT

WEEK OF Dec. 10

ECCC announces new Phi Theta Kappa members

Thirty East Central Community College students were recently inducted into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges.

Membership in the prestigious organization is by invitation only, and requires a 3.5 grade point average earned as a full-time student at the time of selection. Inductees must also have an overall 3.5 GPA.

New Phi Theta Kappa members on the Decatur campus include Melissa Adkins, Shannon Harrison and Kenneth Hudson, all of Union; Matthew Anthony, Katrina Patie and Alisha Smith, all of Philadelphia; Lauren Ashley, Amneris Avalos, Tiffany Carpenter, Candice Ezell, Timothy Phillipson and Annie McDonald Strohm, all of Morton; Brent Barton, Krista Phillips, Ryan Reeves and Kimberly Williams, all of Forest; Trenton Cockrell, Krystin Hall and Missy Williamson, all of Louisville; Noah Cook and Rodney Parker, Jr., both of Hickory; Caitlin Harper, Sarah Henry, Whitney Knight, Andrew Marshall and Lindsey Stevens, all of Decatur; Diana Hickman, Choctaw; Terri Jones, Paulding; Marcus Lee, Ludlow; and Jennifer Sistrunk, Carthage.

ECCC faculty members Debbie Hammons and Bruce Guraedy serve as club sponsors.

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UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Dec. 10

ECCC Centralettes

Providing halftime entertainment during East Central Community College football and basketball games are the Centralettes, the dance line for the Wall O' Sound Marching Band. Members include (first row, from left) Jordan Taylor, Macon; Brittany Germany, Union; Marty Ann Bergin, Forest; Kelly Kight, Louisville; Courtney Elkins, Forest; and Latrice Waters, Louisville; (second row, from left) Regan Joyner, Philadelphia; Jessica Galloway, Union; Candi Vance, Decatur; Lacey McMurry, Edinburg; Krystal Wolverton, Union; and Carman Ezell, Decatur; and (third row, from left) Becky Culpepper, Forest; Anna Johnson and Lana Adkins, both of Union; Nicole Dunavant, Decatur; Tiffany Thomas, Louisville; and Brooke Culpepper, Forest. Nichol Hillman serves as Centralette coordinator/choreographer.

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UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Dec. 10

East Central Community College drum line

Members of the drum line for the East Central Community College Wall O' Sound Marching Band this year include, from left, front, Corey Sharp, Travis Smallwood, Cassidy Byars, Anna Switzer, Justin Weathers, Jonathan Crabtree, Skyler Steele, Nathan Spears, Stephen Coleman, Brewer McGee; back, Cristen Jones and Lucy Burns, both of Carthage; Monica Chesney, Casey Stokes, Carthage; Kyle Barrett, Hillary Reiger, Marvin Flucker, Dustin Moore, John Bates, and Connie Savell, Carthage.

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CARTHAGINIAN ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIM

UNION APPEAL

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

SPIRIT OF MORTON

OTHER

MERIDIAN STAR

CLARION-LEDGER

IMPACT

WEEK OF Dec. 17

Cheering on the court

ECCC Basketball Cheerleaders
Leading cheers for the East Central Community College Lady Warrior and Warrior basketball teams for 2007-08 are (kneeling from left) Elaina James, Sylva Bay Academy; Anna Munn and Kacy Covert, both of West Lauderdale; Dru Anderson, Newton County: Dakota Anthony, Neshoba Central; Emily Thrash, Sebastopol; Juley Taylor, East Rankin Academy; and Kayla Adcock, Winston Academy; and (standing from left) Austin McNair, Neshoba Central; Daniel Steverson, Newton County Academy; Adam Brown, Lake; Dustin Evans, Collins; Phillip Vines, Neshoba Central; Matt Naylor, West Lauderdale; Tavares Walker, Morton; and Noah Cook, Newton County. Huellen Watson serves as sponsor. (EC Photo)

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UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Dec. 17

ECCC Students Providing Christmas Gifts

East Central Community Colleges students Kim Edwards (left) of Philadelphia and Kristen Alsup of Little Rock and are shown preparing Christmas gifts for delivery to residents of Care Lodge in Meridian. Stockings full of goodies were also provided every child at the facility. Alsup and Edwards are members of Phi Beta Lambda which "adopted" the center for victims of domestic violence as a community project. Alsup serves as parliamentarian for PBL, an organization for business students. Phi Beta Lambda members also provided personal care items for Care Lodge residents at Thanksgiving. Club members are also collecting used cell phones which will be reprogrammed for use by Care Lodge residents. For more information contact PBL adviser Ruth Gregory, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 252. The email address is rgregory@eccc.edu (EC Photo)

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓ _____

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NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Dec. 17

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ECCC Color Guard

ECCC Color Guard
Color Guard members for the East Central Community College Wall 'O Sound Marching Band include (first row, from left) Amber Wall, Forest; Tashide Williamson, Choctaw; Missy Williamson and Lara Burt, both of Louisville; Elizabeth Barney, Sebastopol; and Celeste Franklin, Philadelphia; (second row, from left) Yentl Brantley, Lake; Erin Warren, Philadelphia; Rachel Oatman, Collinsville; Crystal Walker, Philadelphia; and Tashina Taylor, Choctaw; and (third row, from left) DeAndra Gomillion and Wendy Cater, both of Sebastopol; Racheal Day and Sky Apperson, both of Philadelphia; and Monika McMahan, Collinsville.
Ricardo Robinson serves as Color Guard instructor.

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON

OTHER

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NEWTON RECORD

MERIDIAN STAR

CLARION-LEDGER

IMPACT

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC DIAMOND DARLINGS

These young ladies are members of the Diamond Darlings at East Central Community College and assist in promoting and supporting the College's Diamond Warrior Baseball Team. Members and their respective high schools include (front row, from left) Kasey Crutcher, Edinburg; Jennifer Sistrunk, Carthage; Joy Hayes, Newton County; and Ashley Fortune, Edinburg; (second row, from left) Olivia Scott, Carthage; Samantha Wright, Winston Academy; and Lauren Lyle, Carthage; (third row, from left) Caitlin Puckett, Winston Academy; Lacy McMurry, Edinburg; Whitney Smith, Winston Academy; and Caitlin Harper, Newton County Academy; (fourth row, from left) Ginny Mitchell, Leake Academy; Santigous Culpepper, Forest; and Jennifer Wyatt, Newton County Academy; and (fifth row, from left) Ashley Pigg, Edinburg; Britni Harvey, Leake Academy; Erica Dowell, Edinburg; and Tiffany Thomas, Winston Academy. Katie Sparkman serves as sponsor.

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ___ IMPACT ___

UNION APPEAL ___

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ___

SPIRIT OF MORTON ___

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WEEK OF Dec. 24

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC PBL CLUB DONATES TO CARE LODGE

Members of Phi Beta Lambda business club at East Central Community College in Decatur recently donated care packages to the Care Lodge in Meridian. According to club sponsor Ruth Gregory, PBL chose Care Lodge as the recipient of its community service project efforts this year. Our goals include raising students' awareness of domestic violence and to assist the Care Lodge in providing basic needs for clients. Among items in the care packages were personal care products such as lotion, shampoo, conditioner, toothbrushes and toothpastes. Pictured are club members (from left) Tammy Plaisance of Union, Tia Weaver of Conehatta, Valerie Ryan of Philadelphia and Brooke Barrett of Union.

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

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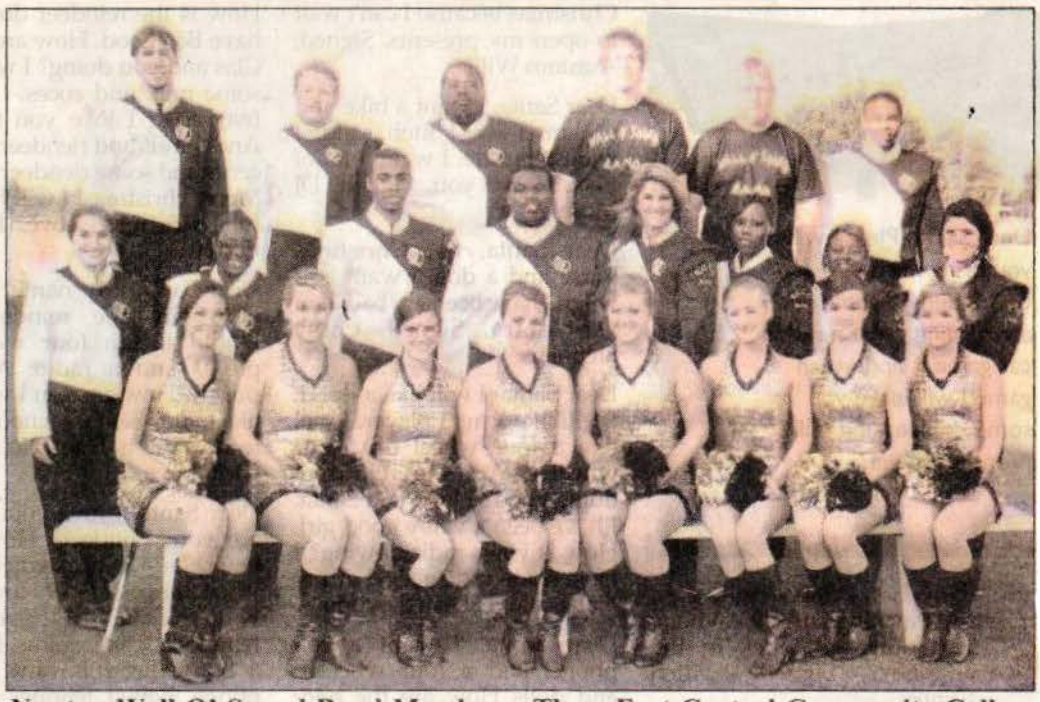
IMPACT _____

Organizations / Clubs WEEK OF Dec. 24



Newton Wall O' Sound Band Members...These East Central Community College students from Newton County are members of the Wall O' Sound Marching Band for 2007-08. Pictured are (first row, from left) Lana Adkins and Anna Johnson, both of Union; Candi Vance, Newton County; Brittany Germany, Union; Carmen Ezell, Newton County; Krystle Wolverton, Union; Nicole Dunavant, Newton County; and Jessica Galloway, Union; (second row, from left) Emilee Lanier and Shardae Foley, both of Newton County; Van Williams, Newton; Austin Crouther, Newton County; Anna Rouse, Union; Kenyana Rivers, Newton; Victoria York, Union; and Lacy Loper, Newton County; and (top row, from left) Kyle Barrett and Drew Gillis, both of Newton County; Aaron Johnson, Newton; Anthony Williams, Newton County; Josh Talbert, Newton; and Jonathan Jackson, Newton County. Thomas W. Carson serves as director of bands and Jared Brownlee is assistant director. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

Awards

WEEK OF Dec. 24, 2007

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TORRENCE RECEIVES AWARD

Nikki Torrence (center) of Morton was recently named Surgical Technology Student c the Year at East Central Community College in Decatur. Torrence received the honor fc excelling in classroom and clinical settings, according to program instructors LeAn Shirley (left) and Kristie Pilgrim, who announced the award during the Surgic Technology Pinning Ceremony held Dec. 13 in the Vickers Fine Arts Center. Torrence i among 19 graduates of the two-year program who were recognized at the special ce mony.

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

Graduation WEEK OF Dec. 24

ECCC PHOTO

COMPLETE ECCC HEALTH CARE ASSISTANT PROGRAM

Recently completing East Central Community College?s Health Care Assistant program are the above students shown displaying certificates received following a graduation ceremony on the Decatur campus. Seated from left are Rebecca Lewis, Philadelphia; Shanika Clark, Meridian; Stacy Svihla, Philadelphia; Jaqueline Pace, Forest; and Barbara Alston, Rose Hill. Standing from left are Akeele Smith, Kosciusko; Erica Pope, Noxubee; Laura Hickman, Union; and Roxanne Wilson, Hickory. Also pictured is instructor Theresa Cole. Not pictured are graduates Leslie Boater of Philadelphia and Rhianna Rhodes of Pulaski. Students who complete the six-month program qualify for employment as nurse assistants, long-term care aides or home-health aides in the Mississippi health care industry. For more information contact Cole (ext. 131) or Betsy Mann (ext. 294), interim dean of health care instruction, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 131. The email addresses are tcole@eccc.edu and bmann@eccc.edu.

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UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Dec. 27

Surgical tech grads

Complete ECCC Surgical Technology Program
East Central Community College recognized graduates of its surgical technology program during a pinning ceremony held Dec. 13 on the Decatur campus. Members of the 2007 Class include (first row, from left) Kerri Withers, Union; Jennifer Smith, Hickory; Karen Porter, Decatur; LaTrycia Brown, Meridian; Niki Torrence, Morton; and Aimee Baugh, Kosciusko; (second row, from left) Reshelle Stroud, Lake; Sharon Griffin, Philadelphia; Jessica Yarbrough, Louisville; and SheKeisha Triplett, Louisville; and April Boyd, Natchez; (third row, from left) Latasha Hall, Decatur; Kendrah Bradford, Forest; Jessica Griffin, Philadelphia; and Debra Hobbs, Laurel; and (fourth row, from left) Brooke Harrell, Morton; Joshua Warren, Meridian; Tavarius Walker, Morton; and James Hattaway, Decatur. Torrence was named Surgical Technology Student of the Year. LeAnn Shirley and Kristie Pilgrim serve as surgical technology instructors.

APPEARED IN:

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Dec. 24

Events

EC donates to WGYCF

East Central Community College faculty secretary Kathy Sanders (right) of Lake is shown presenting donations to Walnut Grove Youth Correctional Facility Chaplain Justin Chaney. The gifts, which Sanders collected from various college employees, students organizations and local churches, will be handed out to inmates at the facility during the Christmas holidays.

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CARTHAGINIAN ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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IMPACT _____

WEEK OF March 5/07

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ECCC Tennis squads begin season with win

Tennis competition began successfully for East Central Community College squads who posted victories over Hinds Community College February 27 on the Decatur campus.

The Lady Warriors defeated their counterparts by a 6-3 margin and the Warriors cruised to a 7-2 win.

In women's singles, EC victors were Briana Stinson of Philadelphia, who defeated H. Carroll (6-1, 5-7, 10-8), and Maggie McDill of Decatur, who clipped S. Moulder (7-5, 6-4). Julie Gaines of Philadelphia and Kim Cleveland of Union won their respective matches due to forfeits. Dru Anderson of Decatur and Mandy Dennis of Carthage were defeated in their respective matches with M. Foster (4-6, 3-6) and A. McAbee (1-6, 2-6).

In doubles competition, Cleveland and Gaines defeated the Carroll-Moulder team (8-3), and Chelsea Brown of Perkinston and Nichole Ball of Louisville were victorious due to a forfeit. Lady Warriors Anderson and Rebecca Myers of Forest fell to Foster and McAbee (6-8).

Warriors James Harris of Morton, Wade Brown of Forest, Noah Cook of Hickory and Caleb Page of Newton won their respective matches in the singles competition. Harris defeated E. Winningham (6-1, 6-0), Brown rallied to beat P. Muffaluto (4-6, 6-0, 10-4), Cook also rallied to clip J. Mullins (6-7, 6-0, 10-7) and Page won his match due to a forfeit. EC's Joseph Cieglo of Lake and Ryan Reeves of Forest were defeated in their respective matches with G. Derklerk (5-7, 6-2, 5-7) and D. Sapp (3-6, 6-2, 4-6).

The ECCC men swept Hinds in doubles, as Harris and Cook teamed to beat Winningham and Mullins (8-4), Brown and Cieglo cruised past the Muffaluto-Derklerk team (8-2) and Josh Moore of Newton and Matthew Wilkerson of Walnut Grove won their match due to a forfeit.

Susan Fox-Smith serves as coach of the Lady Warrior and Warrior tennis teams, whose next competition is scheduled March 6 at Jones County Junior College in Ellisville.

ECCC Women's Tennis Team

Members of East Central Community College's Lady Warrior tennis team for 2007 include (first row, from left) Mandy Dennis, Carthage; Julie Gaines, Philadelphia; and Dru Anderson and Maggie McDill, both of Decatur; and (back row, from left) Kim Cleveland, Union; Rebecca Myers, Forest; Briana Stinson, Philadelphia; Nichole Ball, Louisville; and Chelsea Brown, Perkinston. Susan Fox-Smith begins her first year as head coach. (EC Coach)

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WEEK OF March 12/07

East Central tennis teams fall to Jones

Special to The Record

East Central Community College's tennis teams were edged by Jones County Junior College squads by 5-4 margins Tuesday afternoon on the Decatur campus.

In women's competition, Maggie McDill of Decatur was the lone singles winner for EC as she defeated Lisa Rittenhouse (6-1, 6-2).

In other results, Dru Anderson, also of Decatur, fell to Rebecca Benson (5-7, 0-6); Mandy Dennis of Carthage fell to Lauren Sanford (0-6, 6-2, 8-10); Kim Cleveland of Union fell to Abby Staples-Wells (2-6, 3-6); Julie Gaines of Philadelphia fell to Kelsey Roberts (0-6, 0-6); and Chelsea Brown of Perkinson fell to Marissa Chaffin (4-6, 4-6).

The Lady Warriors captured all three matches in the doubles competition, as Anderson and Briana Stinson of Philadelphia teamed to beat Benson-Sanford (8-6), Cleveland and Rebecca Myers clipped Rittenhouse-Staples-Wells (9-7); and Dennis and Nichole Ball of Louisville outscored Roberts-Chaffin (8-5).

In men's singles, Warriors John Harris of Morton and Wade Brown of Forest won their respective matches over Matt Hill (6-2, 6-0) and Steven Loris (5-7, 6-2, 10-5). EC team members Austin Scoggins of Decatur, Joseph Cieglo of Lake, Ryan Reeves of Forest and Caleb Page of Newton fell in their respective matches to Ryan Brister (0-6, 0-6), Cale Pastorek (2-6, 3-6), Brian Martin (0-6, 5-7) and Johnathan Myrick (0-6, 1-6).

EC took two of three doubles matches, as Harris and Noah Cook of Hickory teamed to beat Hill-Loris (8-3) and John Moore of Newton and Matthew Wilkerson of Walnut Grove edged Martin-Myrick (8-6). Brown and Scoggin were outscored in their match with Brister-Pastorek (8-3).

The Lady Warriors and Warriors, who are led by first-year head coach Susan Fox-Smith, return to action following spring break by hosting Pearl River Community College on March 20.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF March 26/07

ECCC Men's Tennis Squad

Above are members of the East Central Community College Warrior tennis team for the 2007 campaign. First row, from left, are Wade Brown, Forest; Matthew Wilkerson, Walnut Grove; James Harris, Morton; and Noah Cook, Hickory. Back row, from left, are Joseph Cieglo, Lake; Caleb Page, Newton; Ryan Reeves, Forest; and Josh Moore, Newton. Not pictured is Austin Scoggin, Decatur. Susan Fox-Smith begins her first season as head coach. (EC Photo)

MERIDIAN STAR ____ CLARION-LEDGER ____ IMPACT ____

UNION APPEAL ____ WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ____ SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓ ____ OTHER ____

WEEK OF May 28, 2007

ECCC PHOTO

BROWN RECEIVES EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE TENNIS AWARD

Wade Brown of Forest was among members of the East Central Community College men's tennis team who received awards at the annual Spring Sports Awards Banquet held on the Decatur campus. Brown was presented the scholar athlete award in recognition of his 3.9 grade point average. He is shown receiving the award from Susan Fox-Smith, ECCC tennis coach.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF April 2/07

JUCO TENNIS

MCC men 9
East Central 0

The Eagles improved to 14-2 with a 9-0 blanking of the Warriors in Meridian Tuesday.

In singles action, Scott McNamara won 6-1, 6-1 over James Harris, while Nicolas Zabrodiec won 6-0, 6-1 over John Harris.

MCC's Mickey Renfroe won 6-0, 6-0 over Wade Brown; Blake Sherman won 6-0, 6-0 over Austin Scoggin; Joseph Meek won 6-1, 6-3 over Matthew Wilkerson; Scott Truesdale won 6-1, 6-0 over Josh Moore; Justin Newman won 6-0, 6-3 over Noah Cook; and Daniel Russell won 6-2, 6-0 over Joseph Cieglo.

In doubles action, Meridian's McNamara and Renfroe were 8-3 winners over Harris and Harris; Zabrodiec and Meek won 8-3 over Brown and Cook; and Truesdale and Sherman won 8-0 over Wilkerson and Cieglo.

— Rocky Higginbotham

MCC women 9
East Central 0

The Lady Eagles had no trouble with the Lady Warriors, improving to 14-3 on the spring season with the win at Northeast Park.

MCC's top three singles players won 6-0, 6-0, including Sierra Woolery over Dru Anderson, Alycia Le Merle over Briana Stinson and Laine Denuex over Maggie McDill.

Leslie Bunn defeated Chelsea Brown 6-3, 6-0, Jodi Webb won 6-0, 6-0 over Julie Gaines and Molly Moon beat Nichole Ball 6-0, 6-2.

In doubles action, Woolery and Le Merle won 8-0 over Anderson and Stinson; Denuex and Bunn won 8-3 over Kim Cleveland and Mandy Dennis; and Moon and Webb won 8-4 over McDill and Brown.

— Rocky Higginbotham

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Aug. 27

ECCC Tennis Award Winners

Recipients of East Central Community College tennis team awards for the 2007 season include (from left) Maggie McDill, women's scholar athlete, and Dru Anderson, women's most valuable player, both of Decatur and Newton County High School products; Neshoba Central graduate Briana Stinson of Philadelphia, women's most improved; and Josh Moore of Newton, men's most improved. Not pictured are Warriors James Harris of Morton and Wade Brown of Forest, who received most valuable player and scholar athlete award, respectively. The Lady Warriors finished tied for third in the state tournament and the men placed sixth in state competition. The combined season record for both teams was 7-5.

EC photo

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓ _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OTHER _____

WEEK OF Jan. 5/07

Lady Warriors win 4th straight

East Central Community College's Lady Warriors won their fourth straight MACJC South Division contest and the Warriors snapped a six-game skid after both teams posted victories over Jones County Junior College Thursday night in Ellisville.

The ECCC women held on for an 87-82 decision over the Lady Bobcats and the Warriors managed an 84-73 win over the Jones men.

With the wins, the Lady Warriors improved to 13-5 overall and 5-3 in division play under second-year head coach Billy Smith, and the Warriors are 6-12 and 2-6 under first-year head mentor Maurice Bowie.

Valerie Harris of Lake led the Lady Warriors with 24 points. Also scoring were Tanesha Brown of Jackson Provine, 21; Andrea Dubose, a product of Newton County High School, 12; Alisa Matlock and Katherine Taylor, both of Carthage, nine each; Tawaytha Evans of Newton, seven; Jessica Anderson of Newton and Carlena Clemmons of Union, two each; and Chotsani Henderson of Newton, one.

Rosemary Green of Mize had 20 points for the Lady Bobcats, who dropped to 14-5 and 5-3.

EC led 45-34 at the break.

Bryan Johnson of Jackson Provine was the top point maker for the Warriors with 25 points. Also scoring were Marquis Wilson of Delhi, La., 17; Earnesto Green of Provine, 16; Brandon Shelton of Newton, nine; Darron Maxtion, a product of Sparkman HS in Harvest, Ala., eight; Eddie Patrick of Scott Central, four; Craig Pruitt of Newton County, three; and Chris Brown of Hattiesburg, two.

Ryne Brooks of Mobile, Ala., tallied 20 points to led Jones, which fell to 3-15 and 1-7.

EC held an 84-73 advantage at halftime.

The Lady Warriors and Warriors host Meridian Community College Monday and entertain Copiah-Lincoln Community College on Thursday, Feb. 8.

Women's action gets underway at 6 p.m. followed by the men's contest at 8 p.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Jan. 8/07

ECCC women defeat Itawamba

Freshman center Katherine Taylor's basket with five seconds remaining in overtime lifted East Central Community College to an 85-83 decision over Itawamba Community College Thursday night on the Fulton campus in the first action of 2007 for both teams.

Taylor, a Carthage High School product, also made the tying goal that sent the non-division contest into the extra period, completing a second-half rally for the Lady Warriors who improved to 8-2 under second-year head year coach Billy Smith.

East Central was led in scoring by the 50-point performance of sophomores Valerie Harris of Lake and Andrea Dubose, a Newton County High School product, who pumped in 27 and 23 points, respectively.

Other point makers were Taylor, 13; Tanesha Brown of Jackson Provine, 11; Jessica Anderson of Newton, nine; and Tawaytha Evans of Newton, two.

Bronson Rodgers of Fulton and Cathleen Hudson of Birmingham had 16 points each to lead the Lady Indians, who fell to 6-5.

The Lady Warriors, who avenged an earlier 77-74 setback to the Lady Indians in Decatur, trailed 40-32 at halftime. The game was tied 71-71 at the end of regulation.

In the men's game, the Warriors were outscored 93-74 by the nationally ranked Indians who improved to 10-2 while ECCC fell to 4-6 under first-year head coach Maurice Bowie, a former assistant at ICC.

Sophomore Earnesto Green of Jackson Provine led EC with 20 points. Also scoring were Darron Maxtion, a product of Sparkman HS in Harvest, Ala., 15; Justin Brown of South Leake, 10; Bryan Johnson of Jackson Provine and Caleb Pearson of Richland, eight each; Marquis Wilson of Delhi, La., six; Mike Presendieu of New Dimensions HS in Orlando, Eddie Patrick of Scott Central and Craig Pruitt of Newton County, two each; and Brandon Shelton of Newton, one.

Tim Green of Memphis had 15 points to lead the Indians, who are ranked tenth in the latest NJCAA poll. Itawamba is led by former ECCC head coach Marty Cooper. The Indians escaped with a 94-91 double overtime victory over EC in Decatur earlier in the season.

ECCC squads begin MACJC South Division action on Monday, January 8 against visiting Jones County Junior College. Tip-off times are 6 p.m. for the women's contest with men's action set to start at 8 p.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Building.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

week of Jan. 3/07

No. 22 Jones rallies past East Central

By Marty Stamper
special to the star

DECATUR — The nationally-ranked Jones Junior College Lady Bobcats rallied from a 15-point second-half deficit to take an 81-80 MACJC South Division win at East Central Community College Monday night.

ECCC's men extended Jones' losing streak to 10 with an 82-64 whipping in the second game.

ECCC returns to action Thursday at Meridian Community College, while Jones hosts Hinds at Ellisville.

Jones women	**81**
East Central	**80**

The Lady Bobcats, ranked No. 22 in the NJCAA women's Division I poll, outrebounded ECCC 45-26 to improve to 10-2 overall in the South Division opener for both teams.

ECCC fell to 8-3.

Six-footers Kelsey Hopkins, Pauline Love, and Chinita Steele each had 11 rebounds for Jones.

"We didn't do a good job boxing out on the defensive end," ECCC coach Billy Smith said. "They probably had 40 second-chance points. That's a big difference in the game."

ECCC took a 43-31 lead into halftime behind 17 points from Lake's Valerie Harris and led by as many as 15 points early in the second half before Jones pulled even at 66 with 7:14 remaining.

The contest was tied six more times before Andrea Dubose scored with the shot clock running out with 34 seconds left to give the Lady Warriors an 80-78 lead.

Jones inbounded the ball with 13 seconds left and Deanna Powe buried a 3-pointer to put the Lady Bobcats up 81-80.

"It seemed like the first half we couldn't get it down the court, we couldn't make a shot ... we were trying to go fast on both ends instead of setting up," Jones coach

See **ECCC**
Page B4

PHOTO BY KYLE CARTER / THE MERIDIAN STAR

WRAP-AROUND

East Central Community College's Katherine Taylor makes a pass around the outstretched arm of a Jones defender during first-half action of their matchup in Decatur Monday night.

Continued on next page

WEEK OF Jan. 8/07

East Central, Jones battle in South Division matchup

B1

ECCC

From Page B1

Sandra Sumrall said. "We had poor shot selection.

"The girls just kept fighting back. It's a big win. Anytime you come to East Central and win, it's big."

Hopkins tossed in a team-high 25 points, while Love scored 19, Rosemary Green had 10, Kim Lewis nine, and Jessica Gray seven.

ECCC was led by Harris, who scored a game-high 30 points and pulled down eight boards. Dubose scored 15 points, Jessica Anderson had 10 and Tanesha Brown added nine.

"We didn't shoot too well in the second half," Smith said. "We missed a lot of easy baskets and tried to force some shots. We let them have that 3-pointer at the end and that was the only 3-pointer they made all night.

"We tried to stop Love from getting the last shot. We doubled on her and left one open and she stepped up and made the shot when she had to."

East Central men 82
Jones 64

The Warriors shut out the Bobcats over the final four minutes to take the South Division opener.

"It's always good to start division play 1-0," said ECCC first-year head coach Maurice Bowie. "You never know when your wins are going to come. We got one tonight and we're looking forward to going over to MCC Thursday night. Hopefully, we'll compile another one."

The Warriors took an early 26-13 lead, only to have Jones battle to within 36-33. ECCC carried a 40-35 lead into halftime.

Marquis Wilson drove the length of the court for a layup and made the free throw after being fouled to put the Warriors up 63-48 with 10:03 remaining.

After Jones closed to within 74-64 with 4:03 left, the Warriors finished the game on an 8-0 run, despite missing six of 10 free throws, to take the win.

Earnesto Green led ECCC, 5-6, with 17 points. Darron Maxtion scored 15, Brandon Shelton had 11, Eddie Patrick nine and Bryan Johnson eight. Eight Warriors scored at least five points.

"We've only got 10 players now," Bowie said. "We lost three at Christmas to grades, so we've got to get something out of everybody."

Jones, 1-10, got 14 points each from James Bender and Frederick Clyde and nine from Skyler Culberson. Clyde made four 3-pointers.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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8/57

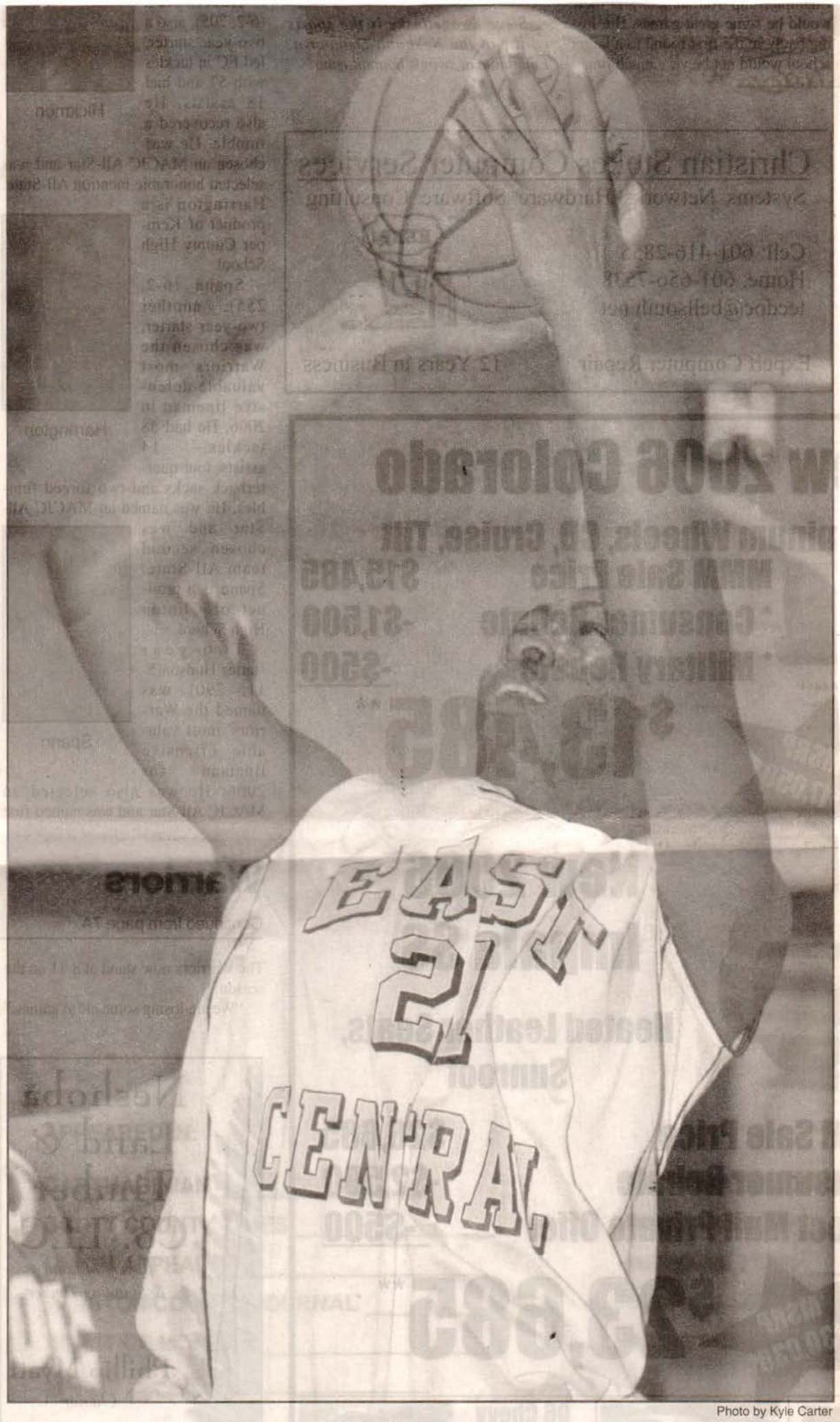

Photo by Kyle Carter

Valerie Harris shoots the ball in recent East Central Community College action.

WEEK OF Jan. 15/07

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

ECCC Lady Warriors take advantage of MCC

A missed layup at the end of regulation by Meridian Community College provided East Central Community College's Lady Warriors with a second chance for victory and Billy Smith's squad took advantage of the opportunity by posting a 95-86 overtime decision over the Lady Eagles Thursday night on the MCC campus.

Jennifer Wair could have won the MACJC South Division contest for MCC but her attempt with two seconds remaining hung on the rim before falling off as the buzzer sounded, sending the contest into overtime tied at 82.

The Lady Warriors outscored the Lady Eagles by a 13-4 margin in the extra period to claim the victory and even their division mark at 1-1, the same record as MCC. EC improved to 9-3 overall while the Lady Eagles slipped to 8-5.

Sophomore forward Valerie Harris of Lake was the scorer for EC with 32 points. Other point makers were Tanesha Brown of Provine, 20; Tawaytha Evans of Newton, 11; Andrea Dubose of Newton County and Alisa Matlock of Carthage, eight each; Jessica Anderson of Newton, six; Katherine Taylor of Carthage, four; and Chotsani Henderson of Newton, Tamika Triplett of Sebastopol and Carlena Clemmons of Union, two each.

NaDosha Strickland had 17 points to lead MCC.

East Central led 53-42 at halftime.

In the men's game, the Warriors were

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miscue in 95-86 overtime win

outscored 100-85 to the host Eagles.

Sophomore shooting guard Earnesto Green of Provine had 20 points to lead East Central, which fell to 5-7 and 1-1 under first-year head coach Maurice Bowie.

Also scoring were Marquis Wilson of Delhi, La., 16; Brandon Shelton of Newton, 11; Darron Maxtion, a product of Sparkman HS in Harvest, Ala., nine; Mike Presendieu of New Dimension HS in Orlando, eight; Justin Brown of South Leake, seven; Bryan Johnson of Provine, six; and Craig Pruitt of Newton County, two.

Regis Huddleston had 19 points to lead MCC, which improved to 4-9 and 1-1.

EC trailed 45-40 at the break.

The Lady Warriors and Warriors travel to Copiah-Lincoln Community College Monday night and host Southwest Mississippi Community College on Thursday, January 19. Tip-off times are 6 p.m. for the women's contest and 8 p.m. for men's action.

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WEEK OF Jan. 15/07

8A, The Neshoba Democrat, Philadelphia, Miss., January 17, 2007

ECCC teams swept at Co-Lin

East Central Community College basketball squads fell to Copiah-Lincoln Community College teams in MACJC South Division action Monday night on the Wesson campus.

The Lady Warriors were outscored 73-50 by the nationally ranked Lady Wolves and the Warriors were clipped by a 74-67 margin.

Sophomore forward Valerie Harris of Lake poured in 13 points to lead East Central, which dropped to 9-4 overall and 1-2 in league play under second-year head coach Billy Smith.

Other scorers were Tanesha Brown of Jackson Provine, 11; Alisha Matlock of Carthage, eight; Jessica Anderson of Newton, seven; Andrea Dubose of Newton County, five; Erin Waktins of Newton County Academy, three; Tawaytha Evans of Newton, two; and Beverly Hutchinson, a product of Lee High School in Baton Rouge, one.

Nikki Williams of White Castle, La., pumped in 20 points to lead the Lady Wolves, who improved to 13-1 and are ranked 12th in the latest NJCAA poll.

EC trailed 37-28 at the break.

Freshman shooting guard Brandon Shelton of Newton had 16 points to lead the Warriors, who fell to 5-8 overall and 1-2 in division competition under first-year head coach Maurice Bowie.

Co-Lin held a 37-28 advantage at halftime.

Split with MCC

A missed layup at the end of regulation by Meridian Community College provided East Central Community College's Lady Warriors with a second chance for victory and Billy Smith's squad took advantage of the opportunity by posting a 95-86 overtime decision over the Lady Eagles Thursday night on the MCC campus.

Jennifer Wair could have won the MACJC South Division contest for MCC but her attempt with two seconds remaining hung on the rim before falling off as the buzzer sounded, sending the contest into overtime tied at 82.

The Lady Warriors outscored the Lady Eagles by a 13-4 margin in the extra period to claim the victory and even their division mark at 1-1, the same record as MCC. EC improved to 9-3 overall while the Lady Eagles slipped to 8-5.

Sophomore forward Valerie Harris of Lake was the scorer for EC with 32 East Central led 53-42 at halftime.

In the men's game, the Warriors were outscored 100-85 to the host Eagles.

Sophomore shooting guard Earnesto Green of Provine had 20 points to lead East Central, which fell to 5-7 and 1-1 under first-year head coach Maurice Bowie.

Regis Huddleston had 19 points to lead MCC, which improved to 4-9 and 1-1.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

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IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Jan. 15/07

EC takes splits with Jones, Meridian

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

Both the Warriors and Lady Warriors of East Central Community College came away with splits in MACJC South Division action with the Lady Warriors beating Meridian in overtime and the Warriors knocking off Jones.

Jones 81
EC women 80

Jones, ranked No. 22 nationally, battled back from a 15-point second half deficit to defeat the Lady Warriors on Jan. 8 at Decatur.

Deanna Powe's 3-point shot with 13 seconds remaining gave the Lady Bobcats the win.

Andrea Dubose had put the Lady Warriors up 80-78 20 seconds earlier, but Jones was able to score off an inbounds play and EC was unable to answer as time expired.

Sophomore Valerie Harris of Lake had 30 points and eight rebounds to lead the Lady Warriors. In falling to 8-3 overall and 0-1 in the South Division, the Lady Warriors were outrebounded 45-26.

Dubose scored 15 points for EC, while Jessica Anderson had 10, Tanesha Brown nine, and Jordan Patterson five.

Kelsey Hopkins led Jones (10-2, 1-0) with 25 points.

EC started the game on fire, leading 43-31 at the break.

EC men 82

Eagles 13-4 in overtime for the win Thursday at Meridian.

"We went from a sure loss to a chance to win and the girls took advantage of that opportunity," said EC women's coach Billy Smith.

EC jumped out to a 53-42 halftime lead only to have MCC force overtime at 82.

In improving to 9-3 overall and 1-1 in the South Division, EC got 32 points from sophomore forward Valerie Harris of Lake, 20 from Tanesha Brown 11 from Tawaytha Evans, eight each from Andrea Dubose and Alisa Matlock, six from Jessica Anderson, and four from Katherine Taylor.

MACJC
South Division
(Through Jan. 14)

Women

	Div.	All
Co-Lin	2-0	12-1
Jones	2-0	11-2
East Central	1-1	9-3
Meridian	1-1	8-5
Pearl River	1-1	8-5
Southwest	1-1	8-5
Gulf Coast	0-2	5-8
Hinds	0-2	4-8

Men

	Div.	All
Co-Lin	2-0	9-3
Gulf Coast	2-0	9-4
Hinds	2-0	6-6
Meridian	1-1	4-9
East Central	1-1	5-7
Pearl River	0-2	6-7
Southwest	0-2	6-7
Jones	0-2	1-11

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____
UNION APPEAL ✓
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____
SPIRIT OF MORTON _____
OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____
NEWTON RECORD _____
MERIDIAN STAR _____
CLARION-LEDGER _____
IMPACT _____

Jan. 15/07

Jones 64

Sophomore Earnesto Green scored 17 points to lead EC as the Warriors improved to 5-6 overall and 1-0 in the division with the Jan. 8 victory at Decatur.

The Warriors, who took a 40-35 lead into halftime and holding as much as a 13-point advantage in the first half, also got 15 points from Darron Maxtion, 11 from Brandon Shelton, nine from Eddie Patrick, eight from Bryan Johnson, and six each from Craig Pruitt and Caleb Pearson.

"It's always good to start division play 1-0," said EC first-year head coach Maurice Bowie. "You never know when your wins are going to come.

"We've only got 10 players now. We lost three at Christmas to grades, so we've got to get something out of everybody."

Jones (1-10, 0-1) got 14 points each from James Bender and Frederick Clyde as the Bobcats saw their losing streak extend to 10 games.

EC women 95
Meridian 86

EC got new life when MCC's Jennifer Wair blew a wide open layup with two seconds left in regulation that would have won the South Division contest and the Lady Warriors took advantage, outscoring the Lady MCC, which fell to 8-5 overall and 1-1 in league play, was led by NaDosha Strickland's 17 points. Anesia McBride had 14 and Holly Dial 13 with Wair and Hilal Yildirim both getting 11.

Meridian 100
EC men 85

The Warriors fell to 1-1 in the division and 5-7 overall in losing Thursday's men's contest at Meridian.

Sophomore shooting guard Earnesto Green of Jackson Provine led the Warriors with 20 points. Marquis Wilson scored 16, Brandon Shelton tossed in 11, Darron Maxtion had nine, Mike Presendieu added eight, Justin Brown seven, and Bryan Johnson six.

MCC carried a 45-40 lead into halftime.

The Eagles were led by Regis Huddleston's 19 points as they improved to 4-9 overall and 1-1 in the division. Keith James scored 16, Chris Leggett had 15, Maurice Naylor 14, Dexter Leflore 12, and Mike Strickland 11.

After going to Wesson to take on Copiah-Lincoln Community College on Monday, the EC teams are slated to return home to host Southwest Mississippi Community College on Thursday and Hinds Community College on Jan. 22.

WEEK OF Jan. 22/07

EC Lady Warriors win two

Special to The Record

Andrea Dubose pumped in 16 points and Tanesha Brown and Valerie Harris added 15 points each to lead the East Central Community College women to a 71-57 decision over Hinds Community College Monday night in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus.

With the victory, the Lady Warriors improved to 10-5 overall and 2-3 in MACJC South Division action under second-year head coach Billy Smith.

Dubose, a product of Newton County High School, and Brown and Harris, former standouts at Jackson Provine and Lake, respectively, were among 12 scorers EC, which snapped a two-game skid.

Also scoring for EC were Katherine Taylor of Carthage, six; Carlena Clemmons of Union, four; Constance Hayes of Provine and Alisa Matlock of Carthage, three each; Erin Watkins of Newton Academy, Tawaytha Evans of Newton, Tamika Triplett of Sebastopol and Beverly Hutchinson, a product of Lee High School in Baton Rouge, two each; and Jordan Patterson of Oak Hill Academy, one.

Candace Johnson of Jackson had 13 points to lead Hinds, which slipped to 4-11 and 0-5.

EC held a 38-22 advantage at halftime.

In the men's contest, EC was unable to hold on to its slim 35-33 lead at halftime and the visiting Bulldogs came out on top by an 82-67 margin.

Bryan Johnson, a Jackson Provine product, poured in 26 points to lead the Warriors, who fell to 5-10 and 1-4 under first-year head coach Maurice Bowie.

Also scoring for EC were Marquis Wilson of Delhi, La., eight; Brandon Shelton of Newton, Chris Brown of Hattiesburg and Darron Maxtion, a product of Sparkman HS in Harvest, Ala., seven each; Earnesto Green of Provine, six; Craig Pruitt of Newton County, five; and Caleb Pearson of Richland, one.

William Howard of Pearl pumped in 16 points to lead the Bulldogs, who improved to 8-7 and 4-1.

EC squads travel to Gulf Coast Thursday and host Pearl River Monday night. Women's action begins at 6 p.m. followed by the men's contest at 8 p.m.

ECCC-Southwest

DECATUR – East Central Community College's Warriors and Lady Warriors fell to Southwest Mississippi Community College in MACJC South Division action Thursday night in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus.

The Warriors were clipped 87-84 in overtime and the EC women were outscored 74-66.

EC's men held a 74-63 advantage with 4:30 remaining in regulation but the Bears clawed their way back into the division contest and sent the game into overtime on a late three-point shot tied at 78 .

Southwest outscored EC 9-6 in the extra period and improved to 7-8 overall and 1-2 in division play, while the Warriors dropped to 5-9 and 1-3 under first-year head coach Maurice Bowie.

Sophomore shooting guard Earnesto Green of Jackson Provine led EC with 20 points. Also scoring were Bryan Johnson, also of Provine, who had 19 points; Marquis Wilson of Delhi, La., 16; Brandon Shelton of Newton, 15; Craig Pruitt of Newton County and Mike Presendieu, a product of New Dimension HS in Orlando, five each; and Caleb Pearson of Richland and Darron Maxtion of Sparkman HS, Harvest, Ala., two each.

Aubrey Coleman of Houston, Texas, pumped in 18 points to lead Southwest.

EC trailed 46-44 at the break.

In the women's contest, Valerie Harris of Lake and Tanesha Brown of Provine poured in 20 points each for EC which dropped to 9-5 overall and 1-3 in league play.

Other point makers were Tawaytha Evans of Newton, eight; Andrea Dubose of Newton County, six; Jessica Anderson of Newton, four; and Chotsani Henderson of Newton, Constance Hayes of Provine, Tamika Triplett of Sebastopol and Katherine Taylor of Carthage, two each.

Carmiel Gamble of Dexter tallied 17 points to lead the Lady Bears, who improved to 9-6 and 2-2.

Southwest held a 44-37 advantage at the break.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Jan. 22/07

Warriors split with Hinds C.C.

By Marty Stamper
special to the Star

DECATUR — The East Central Community College Lady Warriors broke out of a recent slump with a 71-57 win over Hinds Community College Monday night.

The Warriors were unable to complete the sweep, falling 82-67 to the Bulldogs.

ECCC returns to action Thursday at Gulf Coast Community College.

ECCC women	**71**
Hinds	**57**

Everybody played and almost everybody scored for the Lady Warriors as they snapped a two-game losing streak. ECCC improved to 10-5 overall and 2-3 in the MACJC South Division with the win.

"We had to have a couple reality checks in practice the last day or two and I think we came out and played with a little more intensity tonight than we did the last couple ballgames," said ECCC women's coach Billy Smith. "We were going to give everybody a chance to get in there and try to wear them down and press the whole 40 minutes. I think it worked a little bit.

"They didn't make a lot of shots the second half they probably would have if they'd been fresh. We've got to be able to play 40 minutes every night, not just when we want to."

ECCC grabbed an early 24-11 lead and took a 38-22 lead into halftime behind four 3-point baskets by Andrea Dubose.

The Lady Warriors extended their lead to 44-22 in the first three minutes of the second half.

Dubose led ECCC with 16 points. Tanesha Brown and Valerie Harris both scored 15 with Katherine Taylor getting six. Twelve of the 14 Lady Warriors scored.

See ECCC
Page B3

ECCC

From Page B1

Hinds (4-11, 0-5) got 13 points from Candance Johnson, nine from DeAundria Singleton and eight from Sheba Smith.

Hinds	**82**
ECCC men	**67**

Despite the final 15-point margin, ECCC maintained a lead much of the night before Hinds pulled away over the final 11:30.

The Warriors spotted Hinds the first two baskets, but used a 9-0 run to take a 14-11 lead with 14:22 to go in the first half.

ECCC led by as many as five points in the first half before taking a 35-33 lead into halftime.

The Warriors got a 3-pointer from Brandon Shelton, a putback basket by Bryan Johnson and a pair of free throws by Earnesto Green to take a 45-37 lead with 15:51 to play. The eight-point margin would be ECCC's biggest lead of the game.

Hinds, however, put together an 11-0 run to go up 61-51 with 8:43 remaining and the Warriors could get no closer than six points the remainder of the contest.

Hinds scored 13 of the final 18 points to pull away.

Johnson led ECCC (5-10 overall, 1-4 South Division) with a game-high 26 points. Marquis Wilson scored eight and Shelton, Chris Brown and Darron Maxtion each had seven.

Hinds (8-7, 4-1) got 21 points from Flawaan Flaggs, 16 from William Howard and 14 each from Jeremy Williams and James Burkes. Flaggs and Williams both made three 3-pointers.

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

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IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Jan. 29/07

ECCC women topple Hinds

Andrea Dubose pumped in 16 points and Tanesha Brown and Valerie Harris added 15 points each to lead the East Central Community College women to a 71-57 decision over Hinds Community College Monday night in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus.

With the victory, the Lady Warriors improved to 10-5 overall and 2-3 in MACJC South Division action under second-year head coach Billy Smith.

Dubose, a product of Newton County High School, and Brown and Harris, former standouts at Jackson Provine and Lake, respectively, were among 12 scorers EC, which snapped a two-game skid.

Also scoring for EC were Katherine Taylor of Carthage, six; Carlena Clemmons of Union, four; Constance Hayes of Provine and Alisa Matlock of Carthage, three each; Erin Watkins of Newton Academy, Tawaytha Evans of Newton, Tamika Triplett of Sebastopol and Beverly Hutchinson, a product of Lee High School in Baton Rouge, two each; and Jordan Patterson of Oak Hill Academy, one.

Candace Johnson of Jackson had 13 points to lead Hinds, which slipped to 4-11 and 0-5.

EC held a 38-22 advantage at half-time.

In the men's contest, EC was unable to hold on to its slim 35-33 lead at halftime and the visiting Bulldogs came out on top by an 82-67 margin.

Bryan Johnson, a Jackson Provine product, poured in 26 points to lead the Warriors, who fell to 5-10 and 1-4 under first-year head coach Maurice Bowie. Also scoring for EC were Marquis Wilson of Delhi, La., eight; Brandon Shelton of Newton, Chris Brown of Hattiesburg and Darron Maxtion, a product of Sparkm in Harvest, Ala., seven each; E Green of Provine, six.

Craig Pruitt of Newton C five; and Caleb Pearson of Ri one.

Photo by Kirk

East Central's Andrea Dubose guards Hinds' Candance Johnson during the first half of their gam Monday.

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

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IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Jan. 29/07

Lady Warriors down Jones

from staff reports

AREA ROUNDUP

East Central Community College's women pulled out a big South Division victory at Ellisville Thursday night, beating homestanding Jones County Junior College 87-82.

The Lady Warriors improved to 13-5 overall, while Jones fell to 14-5. Both teams are in a logjam in the South Division standings, tied for second place with 5-3 records.

East Central led 45-34 at halftime thanks to a late 11-0 run, never trailing in the second half.

Former Lake standout Valerie Harris pumped in 24 points to lead the Lady Warriors, while Tanesha Brown scored 21. Newton County product Andrea Dubose chipped in 12.

Jones got 20 points from Rosemary Green and 17 from Kate Hubbard.

The Lady Bobcats are at Hinds Monday, while East Central hosts Meridian Monday.

— Rocky Higginbotham

East Central 84
Jones men 73

The Warriors improved to 6-12 overall and 2-6 in division action with an 11-point win over the Bobcats.

Bryan Johnson pumped in 25 points, while Marquis Wilson scored 17 and Earnesto Green 16 for the Warriors. Newton's Brandon Shelton added nine points.

The Warriors, who host Meridian Monday, led 44-40 at halftime.

Jones, which dropped to 3-15 overall and 1-7 in the South, got 20 points from Ryne Brooks and 14 from Bay Springs native LaBarton Jones. The Bobcats go to Hinds Monday.

— Rocky Higginbotham

PREP BASKETBALL

Sumter Aca. girls 52
Central Christian 40

The Lady Eagles pulled a slight upset in semifinal action at the AISA Class 1A, West Area 2 Tournament at South Choctaw Academy.

Sumter, the No. 3 seed in the event, opened the game with a 16-3 run and was in control most of the way against second-seeded Central Christian of Selma, Ala.

Kate Derby scored 18 points and had six steals for Sumter, which evened its record at 11-11. Erin Ozment added 13 points and Alley Rundles scored nine.

Central Christian got 18 points from Erikka Caldwell and 11 from Tiffany Brown.

Sumter will take on top-seeded South Choctaw in tonight's 6 p.m. tournament finals. Both teams will then advance to the AISA Regional Feb. 8-9 at Faulkner University in Montgomery.

— Rocky Higginbotham

Sumter Aca. boys 57
Central Christian 51

The Eagles went off for 23 points in the second quarter to build a comfortable lead, then held off Central Christian of Selma, Ala. for a win in the AISA Class 1A, West Area 2 Tournament at South Choctaw Academy.

Sumter, which is now 10-12 overall, will take on West Alabama Prep in tonight's area tournament championship game at 7:15. West Alabama topped host South Choctaw 63-60 in Thursday's semifinals.

The Eagles led just 12-8 after one quarter, but were up 35-22 at the half.

Hunter Spidle led three Sumter players in double figures with 16 points, while Stevie Ray scored 14 and Joseph Reed 12.

Deandre McIntyre led Central Christian with 12 points.

— Rocky Higginbotham

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MERIDIAN STAR √
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WEEK OF Jan. 29/07

ECCC women win two more

Special to the Record

East Central Community College's Lady Warriors played like a team on a mission Monday night as they cruised to a 79-66 win over visiting Pearl River Community College in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

The EC women – who led by as many as 26 points during first-half action and settled for a 43-21 advantage at the break-improved to 12-5 overall and 4-3 in MACJC South Division action under second-year head coach Billy Smith following the victory, while the Lady Wildcats dropped to 11-7 and are also 4-3 in league play.

Valerie Harris of Lake was the top scorer for EC, as she rattled the boards for 25 points. Newton County High School product Andrea Dubose also had a productive night, pumping in 20 points which included five three-point shots.

Other EC point makers were Alisa Matlock of Carthage and Chotsani Henderson of Newton, eight each; Tanesha Brown of Jackson Provine, seven; Tawaytha Evans of Newton five; Jessica Anderson of Newton, four; and Carlena Clemmons of Union

See **ECCC**, Page 2B

ECCC

From Page 1B

and Beverly Hutchinson, a product of Lee High School in Baton Rouge, one each.

Shonderlette Paul of Baton Rouge poured in 25 points to lead Pearl River.

In men's action, the Warriors' second-half rally fell short as the Wildcats held on for a 77-67 decision.

With the loss, EC dropped to 5-12 overall and 1-6 in division competition under first-year head coach Maurice Bowie.

The Warriors, who trailed 35-22 at halftime, cut the Wildcat lead to 64-56 with 4:24 remaining but could get no closer as Pearl River improved to 10-7 and 5-2.

Earnesto Green of Jackson Provine and Mike Presendieu, a product of New Dimension HS in Orlando, had 15 points each to lead the Warriors in scoring. Other point makers were Darron Maxtion of Sparkman HS in Harvest, La., 12; Bryan Johnson of Provine, nine; Chris Brown of Hattiesburg and Craig Pruitt of Newton County, six each; and Marquis Wilson of Delhi, La., four.

Wesley Jones of Beatrice, Ala., led Pearl River with 26 points.

ECCC squads go on the road Thursday to take on Jones County Junior College teams on the Ellisville campus. Women's action gets under way at 6 p.m. followed by the men's contest at 8 p.m.

ECCC-Gulf Coast

Sophomore guard Andrea Dubose of Decatur pumped in 24 points and led the East Central Community College Lady Warriors to an 80-65 thumping of the Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College women Thursday night on the Perkinston campus.

In addition to Dubose, a Newton County High School product, other EC point makers were Tanesha Brown of Jackson Provine, 19; Valerie Harris of Lake, 15; Jessica Anderson of Newton, 11; Tawaytha Evans of Newton, three; Chotsani Henderson of Newton, Carlena Clemons of Union and Katherine Taylor of Carthage, two each; and Erin Watkins of Newton Academy and Tamika Triplett of Sebastopol, one each.

Keaundra Augustus of Patterson, La., led Gulf Coast with 20 points.

EC held a 40-28 advantage at halftime.

In men's action, the Warriors led 34-29 at the break but the Bulldogs rallied for 68-62 decision.

Bryan Johnson, a sophomore power forward/center from Jackson Provine, had 22 points for East Central, which fell to 5-11 overall and 1-5 in league play under first-year head coach Maurice Bowie.

Also scoring for EC were Earnesto Green of Provine, 19; Marquis Wilson of Delhi, La., 11; Craig Pruitt of Newton County, four; Darron Maxtion of Harvest, Ala., and Brandon Shelton of Newton, two each.

Henry Salter of Gulfport poured in 19 points to lead the Bulldogs, who improved to 12-5 and 5-1

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD √

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Jan. 29/07

Lady Warriors Cruise

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR—East Central Community College's Lady Warriors played like a team on a mission Monday as they cruised to a 79-66 win over visiting Pearl River Community College.

The EC women—who led by as many as 26 points during first-half action and settled for a 43-21 advantage at the break-improved to 12-5 overall and 4-3 in MACJC South Division action under second-year head coach Billy Smith following the victory, while the Lady Wildcats dropped to 11-7 and are also 4-3 in league play.

Valerie Harris of Lake was the top scorer for EC, as she rattled the boards for 25 points. Andrea Dubose also had a productive night, pumping in 20 points which included five three-point shots.

Other EC point makers were Alisa Matlock and Chotsani Henderson, eight each; Tanesha Brown, seven; Tawaytha Evans, five; Jessica Anderson, four; and Carlena Clemmons and Beverly Hutchinson, one each.

In men's action, the Warriors' second-half rally fell short as the Wildcats held on for a 77-67 decision.

With the loss, EC dropped to 5-12 overall and 1-6 in division competition under first-year ***head coach Maurice Bowie of Morton***.

The Warriors, who trailed 35-

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UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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IMPACT _____

Jan. 29/0

For 3rd Straight Win

22 at halftime, cut the Wildcat lead to 64-56 with 4:24 remaining but could get no closer as Pearl River improved to 10-7 and 5-2.

Earnesto Green and Mike Presendieu, had 15 points each to lead the Warriors in scoring. Other point makers were Darron Maxtion, 12; Bryan Johnson, nine; Chris Brown and Craig Pruitt, six each; and Marquis Wilson, four.

ECCC squads go on the road Thursday to take on Jones County Junior College teams on the Ellisville campus. Women's action gets underway at 6 p.m. followed by the men's contest at 8 p.m.

In basketball action last Thursday, ECCC split two games with a win and loss.

Sophomore guard Andrea Dubose pumped in 24 points and led the Lady Warriors to an 80-65 thumping of the Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College women Thursday.

Other EC point makers were Tanesha Brown, 19; ***Valerie Harris of Lake***, 15; Jessica Anderson, 11; Tawaytha Evans, three; Chotsani Henderson, Carlena Clemons and Katherine Taylor, two each; and Erin Watkins and ***Tamika Triplett of Sebastopol***, one each.

In men's action, the Warriors led 34-29 at the break but the Bulldogs rallied for 68-62 decision.

Bryan Johnson had 22 points for East Central.

WEEK OF Feb. 5/07

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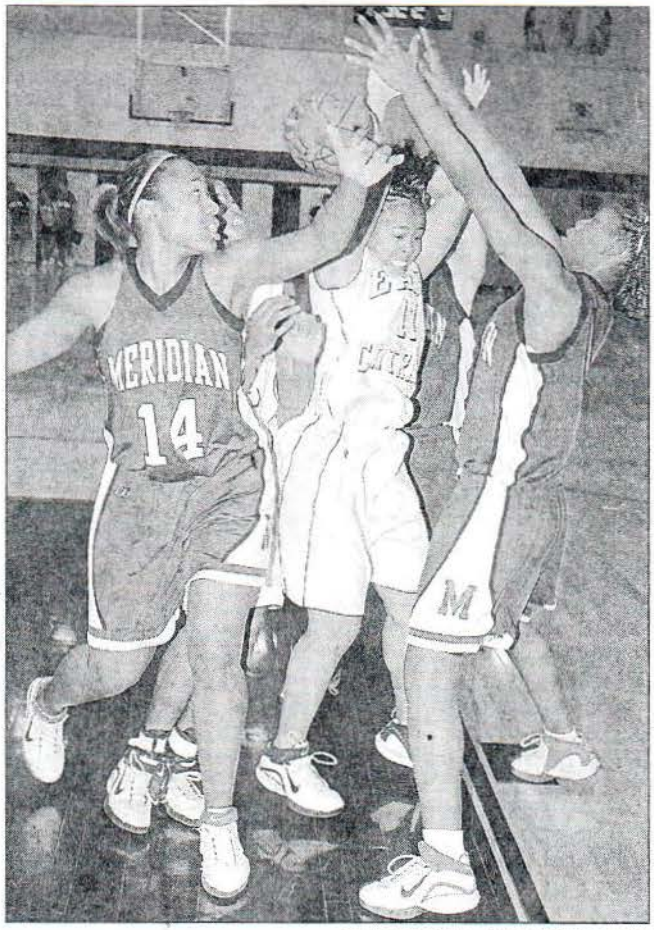

PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

SURROUNDED

East Central Community College's Chotsani Henderson of Newton gets trapped under the basket by Meridian Community College defenders during the first half of action Monday night in Decatur. ECCC knocked off MCC 94-90. See story, page B1.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR √

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Feb. 5/07

ECCC

From Page B1

next four and half minutes until Dial buried her fifth trey of the night, this time from halfcourt as time expired.

"There weren't very many shots taken during that time period," Allen said.

In making their comeback, the Lady Warriors got a 3-pointer each from Brown and Andrea Dubose. Dubose scored inside the arc with 1:37 left to put the Lady Warriors up for good at 87-85.

ECCC made 3-of-8 free throws over a 55-second span to lead 90-87 with 13 seconds remaining.

ECCC's Valerie Harris blocked a 3-point try by Carla Latham, then made a pair of free throws to up the Lady Warrior lead to 92-87 with four seconds left. Brown added two more free shots two seconds later.

Harris led ECCC with 22 points. Brown finished with 19, Dubose added 15 and Patterson and Jessica Anderson both scored 10.

Strickland was the star of the show, scoring 37 points for MCC. The Lady Eagles also got 15 from Dial, all from 3-point range, and 12 each from Yildirim and Anesia McBride.

ECCC improved to 6-3 in the division and 14-5 overall. MCC fell to 5-4 and 12-8. Both teams have five division games remaining. Only the top four teams make the playoffs.

"It's completely up in the air," Allen said. "Every game is crucial. Obviously, a road game victory, if we could have gotten one, would have been huge for us. As it turned out, East Central held court. They've got some road games coming up and we've got some home games, so hopefully we'll hold court.

"It's going to be a huge, huge battle."

ECCC hosts league-leading Copiah-Lincoln on Thursday.

"We've just got to keep taking care of our business," Smith said.

ECCC men	**92**
Meridian	**67**

The Warriors jumped out to a 52-21 halftime lead in pounding the Eagles.

Brandon Shelton scored 13 points in the first half with Darron Maxtion getting nine and Earnesto Green and Marquis Wilson both scoring eight for ECCC.

ECCC improved to 3-6 in the division and 7-12 overall. In losing their seventh straight and 13th in their last 14 games, the Eagles dropped to 1-8 in the league and 4-16 overall.

"I told my guys that they did a great job over there of coming out and jumping on us and that we weren't going to spot them 25 tonight," said ECCC first-year coach Maurice Bowie. "We played hard-nosed defense and got our transition points. We sagged back in our matchup zone and made them make shots.

"I told my guys if they can go out and get me four wins in a row, then we've got a chance (at the playoffs). The people we play the last three games are going to get a little tighter. The pressure's not on us."

Green led the Warriors with 18 points. Wilson scored 14, Shelton had 13, Maxtion and Chris Brown both had 11 and Bryan Johnson scored 10.

MCC got 22 points from Dexter Leflore, 19 from Keith James and 17 from Chris Leggett.

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR √

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

Feb 5/07

Lady Warriors win thriller over Meridian

By Marty Stamper
special to The Star

DECATUR — You know you've seen a top-notch basketball game when long-time coaches and officials are talking about how great it was.

Such was the case Monday night as the East Central Community College Lady Warriors rallied from a 12-point deficit to take a 94-90 win over Meridian Community College at the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

The teams entered the contest in a four-way tie for second place in the MACJC South Division along with Jones and Southwest Mississippi.

"It was a great basketball game," MCC coach Hilary Allen said. "Both teams on both ends of the floor. Every player giving it everything they've got. Both coaches giving it everything they've got.

"Billy Smith did a great job with his squad tonight. If there had been an opportunity for his team to maybe stop playing hard, they didn't. They kept on playing hard. That's a credit to him and his program and they came out with a victory because of it."

The Lady Warriors were down 73-62 with 8:22 remaining before catching fire with four 3-pointers over the next five minutes.

"We made some shots at the end that we weren't making in the first half," Smith said. "Once we hit a couple of those, we got the momentum back and were able to hang on at the end.

> *It was a great, great basketball game. Every player giving it everything they've got.*
>
> **Hilary Allen, MCC head coach**

"They shot the lights out the whole night. We were just fortunate enough to come out on top at the end. It's a big, big win tonight."

MCC took a 44-41 lead into halftime after holding a 42-33 advantage with just three minutes left in the half.

The Lady Eagles fell behind 45-44 in the first minute of the second half, then went up 69-57 with 10:40 remaining. Holly Dial, NaDosha Strickland and Hilal Yildirim each hit a 3-pointer as MCC began pulling away.

Jordan Patterson hit two treys and Tanesha Brown canned two others as ECCC closed to within 73-71 with 6:45 left.

Yildirim turned an ECCC turnover into an 81-75 MCC lead with 4:32 left, but the Lady Eagles managed just six points over the

See **ECCC**
Page B3

WEEK OF Feb. 5/97

ECCC swept by Co-Lin

By Marty Stamper
special to The Star

DECATUR — East Central Community College dropped a pair of hard-fought MACJC South Division basketball games with Copiah-Lincoln Community College Thursday night. The Lady Warriors lost a 59-58 heartbreaker while the Warriors fell in a 70-64 contest.

ECCC returns to action Monday at Summit against Southwest Mississippi Community College.

Co-Lin	**59**
ECCC women	**58**

Unlike Monday's 94-90 run-and-gun win over Meridian Community College, ECCC and Co-Lin hooked up in a league battle where the shot clock was frequently milked under 10 seconds.

Co-Lin's Erica Trahan put the Lady Wolves up 59-58 with 1:36 remaining and neither team scored again.

ECCC missed a shot with 33 seconds remaining, turned the ball over with just under 20 seconds left and was unable to get off a shot in the final 6.9 seconds to drop to 14-6 overall and 6-4 in the division.

The Lady Warriors took a 38-35 lead into halftime as Tawaytha Evans scored in the lane as the halftime horn sounded.

Valerie Harris had 13 points for ECCC in the first 20 minutes with Evans getting seven and Tanesha Brown and Andrea Dubose both getting five.

The Lady Warriors were sluggish offensively to start the second half as they managed just four points over the first 12 and a half minutes.

Co-Lin fared little better, but eight points gave the Lady Wolves a 43-42 lead. The Co-Lin lead grew to 48-42 when Alisha Mason buried a 3-pointer with just over 6 minutes left.

"We just didn't come out with enough spark," said ECCC coach Billy Smith.

"Of course, they had a lot to do with it. We had an opportunity to go up seven or eight points to start the second half and we just couldn't get a shot to fall and we had quite a few turnovers. We never could get a comfortable lead."

But the battle wasn't over. Brown and Dubose each connected from behind the arc to put ECCC up 53-51 with 4:05 to go.

The teams swapped the lead four times with Evans giving the Lady Warriors their last lead at 58-57 with 2 minutes remaining.

See ECCC
Page B4

ECCC

From Page B1

"We had every opportunity in the world to get this one at home and just didn't take care of business," Smith said. "It would have kept us in second place if we had won, but we didn't. Now we've got to go to Southwest Monday and take care of them."

ECCC got 17 points from Harris, 11 each from Brown and Evans and nine from Dubose.

Co-Lin (19-2, 9-1) got 12 points each from Trahan and Kristin Ellis, 10 from Hanna Porter, nine from Nikki Williams and seven from Mason.

Co-Lin	**70**
ECCC men	**64**

The Warriors jumped out to a 10-2 lead in the first five minutes and held a 28-22 advantage going into halftime.

The Wolves used an 11-4 run to start the second half to go up 33-32.

After ECCC took its final lead at 47-45 on a goaltending call on a shot by Marquis Wilson, 6-foot-8 sophomore Greg Truvillion of Lansing, Mich., took over for the Wolves. He scored 15 points over the final 6:52, including a 13-of-16 showing at the free throw line.

Brandon Shelton and Earnesto Green each hit a 3-pointer in a 15-second span to pull the Warriors to within 61-57 with 1:07 remaining, but three consecutive turnovers ended any further comeback hopes by the Warriors.

Wilson had 16 points to lead ECCC (7-13, 3-7). Shelton and Green both scored 14, Darron Maxtion had eight and Bryan Johnson added seven.

The Warriors were just 5-of-16 at the free throw line.

Co-Lin (15-5, 8-2) was paced by Truvillion's game-high 27 points. Christian Marshall scored 11. Charles Lewis and Anthony Wilcher both had seven.

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WEEK OF Feb. 5/07

PHOTO BY PAULT MERRITT/THE MERIDIAN STAR

TAKING A CHARGE

Meridian Community College's Carla Latham tries to draw a charging foul from East Central Community College's Jessica Anderson during the first half of action Monday night.

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR √

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Feb. 5/07
cont'd →

East Central women defeat River, Jones

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

The East Central Community College Lady Warriors jumped into a four-way tie for second place in the MACJC South Division standings with wins over Pearl River and Jones in last week's action.

The Lady Warriors improved to 5-3 in the division and 13-5 overall.

The EC men lost to Pearl River, but jumped out of the division basement with an 84-73 win at Jones. The Warriors improved to 2-6 in the division and 6-12 overall.

EC women	**79**
Pearl River	**66**

The Lady Warriors hit seven 3-pointers in the first half as they took a 43-21 lead into halftime of the Jan. 29 contest at Decatur. Andrea Dubose hit four treys with Tanesha Brown knocking down two.

The Lady Warriors jumped out to a 14-4 lead in the first seven minutes, upped their lead to 27-6 midway through the opening half, and carried a 22-point lead into halftime.

"We shot it well," EC coach Billy Smith said. "We came out and played pretty good defense. We took them out of what they wanted to do.

"I thought that was the best half we've played all year."

In the second half, the Lady Warriors worked deep into the shot clock and fed Valerie Harris inside for 17 of her 27 points.

After leading by as many as 26 points, the Lady Warriors saw Pearl River close to within 52-41 before silencing the Lady Wildcat comeback bid.

Harris, who was 11-of-14 from the floor, led the Lady Warriors with 27 points. Dubose finished with 20, Alisa Matlock and Chotsani Henderson both had eight, and Brown scored seven.

EC held a 40-31 advantage on the boards with Harris and Tawaytha Evans both getting seven and Jessica Anderson pulling down six. Brown had six assists with Dubose getting three steals.

EC improved to 4-3 in the division and 12-5 overall. Pearl River fell to 4-3 and 11-7.

Shonderlette Paul hit five 3-pointers in leading Pearl River with 25 points.

Pearl River	**77**
EC men	**67**

Pearl River scored the first six points and never trailed in beating the Warriors on Jan. 29 at Decatur.

The Wildcats took a 35-22 lead into halftime when Chazz Hawkins buried a long 3-pointer as the horn sounded.

The Wildcats improved to 5-2 in the division and 10-7, while the Warriors dropped to 1-6 and 5-12.

The Warriors got to within eight as Mike Presendieu converted a three-point play with 4:24 showing to trim the gap to 64-56.

EC got 15 points each from Presendieu and Earnesto Green, 12 from Darron Maxtion, nine from Bryan Johnson, and six each from Craig Pruitt and Chris Brown.

Wesley Jones led Pearl River with 26 points.

EC women	**87**
Jones	**82**

The Lady Warriors blanked homestanding Jones 5-0 over the final 80 seconds to grab the South Division win at Ellisville on Thursday.

See Lady Jackets...

EC led by 11 points with eight minutes remaining before Jones pulled even at 82 on a basket by Rosemary Green with 1:27 remaining.

Tanesha Brown put the Lady Warriors in the lead at 85-82 when she canned a 3-pointer with 1:01 to play, then added a pair of free throws in the final seconds to seal the victory.

A late 11-0 run gave EC a 45-34 halftime lead after the Lady Warriors trailed 32-21 with 3:39 remaining in the half.

Valerie Harris had 14 points and Andrea Dubose had 12 in the opening 20 minutes.

EC pushed out to a 77-66 before the Lady Bobcats came storming back to pull even at 82.

Harris finished with 24 points. Brown added 21, 17 coming in the second half, Dubose scored 12, Alisa Matlock and Katherine Taylor both tossed in nine, and Tawaytha Evans scored seven.

Green had 20 to lead Jones with Kate Hubbard tossing in 17.

Continued on B4...
See ECCC...

MACJC
South Division
(Through Feb. 7)

Women	Div.	All
Co-Lin	8-1	18-2
Jones	6-3	15-5
East Central	6-3	14-5
Southwest	5-4	12-8
Meridian	5-4	12-8
Pearl River	4-5	11-9
Gulf Coast	2-7	7-13
Hinds	0-9	4-16

Men	Div.	All
Gulf Coast	8-1	15-5
Co-Lin	7-2	14-5
Hinds	6-3	10-10
Pearl River	5-4	11-9
Southwest	5-4	11-9
East Central	3-6	7-12
Jones	1-8	2-17
Meridian	1-8	4-16

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

Feb 5/07

ECCC...

Continued from B3...

EC improved to 13-5 overall and 5-3 in the division. Jones fell to 14-5 and 5-3.

EC men	**84**
Jones	**73**

Jones took an early 5-0 lead, but the Warriors pulled even at 19-19 with 11:54 left in the first half and pulled out to a 44-40 lead going into halftime of Thursday's game at Ellisville.

The win snapped a six-game losing streak by EC.

The Warriors led by as many as 15 points before the Bobcats closed to within 70-64 with 7:25 left in the division contest.

Bryan Johnson led the Warriors with 25 points. Marquis Wilson scored 17, Earnesto Green added 16, Brandon Shelton tossed in nine, and Darron Maxtion scored eight.

The Warriors improved to 6-12 overall and 2-6 in the division.

Jones was led by Ryne Brooks with 20 points and LaBarton Jones with 14.

The Bobcats dropped to 2-16 overall and 1-7 in the league.

WEEK OF Feb 12/07

EC unable to hold leads against Co-Lin

A five-game win streak came to an end for the East Central Community College Lady Warriors as nationally ranked Copiah-Lincoln Community College rallied for a 59-58 nail-biting victory Thursday night in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus.

East Central, which managed a slim 38-35 halftime advantage over the tenth-ranked Lady Wolves, held its last lead at 58-57 with about two minutes remaining on a jumper by Tawaytha Evans of Newton. Co-Lin's Erica Trahan put up the game's final points with 1:36 remaining and neither team scored again, although EC missed a shot with 33 seconds left and turned the ball over late allowing the Lady Wolves to seal the victory.

With the loss, EC fell to 14-6 overall and 6-4 in MACJC South Division action, while the division leading Lady Wolves improved to 19-2 and 9-1.

Valerie Harris of Lake led EC in scoring with 17 points. Also scoring were Evans and Tanesha Brown of Jackson Provine, 11 each; Andrea Dubose of Newton County, nine; Carlena Clemmons of Union, four; and Jordan Patterson of Oak Hill Academy, Jessica Anderson of Newton and Katherine Taylor of Carthage, two each.

Trahan and Kristen Ellis had 12 points each to lead Co-Lin.

In the men's contest, EC was unable to maintain its 28-22 halftime lead and the Wolves rallied for a 70-64 victory.

With the loss, EC dropped to 7-13 and 3-7, while the Wolves improved to 15-5 and 8-2.

Marquis Wilson of Delhi, La., led EC with 16 points. Also scoring were Brandon Shelton of Newton and Earnesto Green of Jackson Provine, 14 each; Darron Maxtion, a product of Sparkman High School in Harvest, Ala., eight; Bryan Johnson of Provine, seven; Chris Brown of Hattiesburg and Craig Pruitt of Newton County, two each; and Caleb Pearson of Richland, one.

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WEEK OF Feb. 12/07

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East Central women stay in play off hunt

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

Both the Lady Warriors and Warriors of East Central Community College went 1-1 on the hardwood last week.

With two weeks left in the regular season, the Lady Warriors are among six teams battling for a playoff berth in the MACJC South Division.

EC women	94
Meridian	90

The Lady Warriors rallied from a 12-point deficit over the final 10:40 to take the South Division win over MCC on Feb. 5 at Decatur.

EC trailed 73-62 with 8:22 remaining before catching fire with four 3-pointers over the next five minutes.

"We made some shots at the end that we weren't making in the first half," EC coach Billy Smith said. "Once we hit a couple of those, we got the momentum back and were able to hang on at the end."

MCC took a 44-41 lead into halftime after holding a 42-33 advantage with just three minutes left in the half.

Jordan Patterson hit two treys and Tanesha Brown canned two others as EC closed to within 73-71 with 6:45 left.

MCC went back up 81-75 with 4:32 left, but the Lady Eagles managed just six points over the next four and half minutes until Holly Dial buried her fifth trey of the night, this time from halfcourt as time expired.

In making their comeback, the Lady Warriors got a 3-pointer each from Brown and Andrea Dubose.

Dubose scored inside the arc with 1:37 left to put the Lady Warriors up for good at 87-85.

EC made 3-of-8 free throws over a 55-second span to lead 90-87 with 13 seconds left.

EC's Valerie Harris blocked a 3-point try by Carla Latham, then made a pair of free throws to up the Lady Warrior lead to 92-87 with four seconds left. Brown added two more free shots two seconds later.

Harris led EC with 22 points. Brown finished with 19, Dubose added 15 and Patterson and Jessica Anderson both scored 10.

NaDosha Strickland scored a career-high 37 points for MCC. The Lady Eagles also got 15 from Dial, all from 3-point range, and 12 each from Hilal Yildirim and Anesia McBride.

EC improved to 6-3 in the division and 14-5 overall. MCC fell to 5-4 and 12-8.

EC men	92
Meridian	67

The Warriors jumped out to a 52-21 halftime lead in pounding the Eagles on Feb. 5 at Decatur.

Brandon Shelton scored 13 points in the first half with Darron Maxtion getting nine and Earnesto Green and Marquis Wilson both scoring eight for EC.

EC improved to 3-6 in the division and 7-12 overall. In losing their seventh straight and 13th in their last 14 games, the Eagles dropped to 1-8 in the league and 4-16 overall.

"I told my guys that they did a great job over there of coming out and jumping on us and that we weren't going to spot them 25 tonight," said EC first-year coach Maurice Bowie. "We played hard-nosed defense and got our transition points. We sagged back in our matchup zone and made them make shots."

Green led the Warriors with 18 points. Wilson scored 14, Shelton had 13, Maxtion and Chris Brown both had 11 and Bryan Johnson scored 10.

MCC got 22 points from Dexter Leflore, 19 from Keith James and 17 from Chris Leggett.

Co-Lin	59
EC women	58

EC and Co-Lin hooked up in a league battle on Thursday at Decatur where the shot clock was frequently milked under 10 seconds.

Co-Lin's Erica Trahan put the Lady Wolves up 59-58 with 1:36 remaining and neither team scored again.

EC missed a shot with 33 seconds remaining, turned the ball over with just under 20 seconds left, and was unable to get off a shot in the final 6.9 seconds to drop to 14-6 overall and 6-4 in the division.

The Lady Warriors took a 38-35 lead into halftime as

Continued on page 4B...
See ECCC...

MACJC
South Division
(Through Feb. 14)

Women	Div.	All
Co-Lin	10-1	20-2
Jones	8-3	17-5
Southwest	7-4	14-8
East Central	6-5	14-7
Meridian	5-6	12-10
Pearl River	5-6	12-10
Gulf Coast	3-8	8-14
Hinds	0-11	4-18

Men	Div.	All
Gulf Coast	10-1	17-5
Co-Lin	8-3	15-6
Pearl River	7-4	13-9
Hinds	6-5	10-12
Southwest	6-5	12-10
East Central	3-8	7-14
Meridian	3-8	6-16
Jones	1-10	2-19

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OTHER _____

Feb 12/07

ECCC...

Continued from 3B...

Tawaytha Evans scored in the lane as the halftime horn sounded.

Valerie Harris had 13 points for EC in the first 20 minutes with Evans getting seven and Tanesha Brown and Andrea Dubose both getting five.

The Lady Warriors were sluggish offensively to start the second half as they managed just four points over the first 12 and a half minutes.

Co-Lin fared little better, but eight points gave the Lady Wolves a 43-42 lead. The Co-Lin lead grew to 48-42 when Alisha Mason buried a 3-pointer with just over six minutes left.

"We just didn't come out with enough spark," said EC coach Billy Smith. "Of course, they had a lot to do with it. We had an opportunity to go up seven or eight points to start the second half and we just couldn't get a shot to fall and we had quite a few turnovers. We never could get a comfortable lead."

But the battle wasn't over. Brown and Dubose each connected from behind the arc to put EC up 53-51 with 4:05 to go.

The teams swapped the lead four times with Evans giving the Lady Warriors their last lead at 58-57 with two minutes left.

EC got 17 points from Harris, 11 each from Brown and Evans, and nine from Dubose.

Co-Lin (19-2, 9-1) got 12 points each from Trahan and Kristin Ellis, 10 from Hanna Porter, and nine from Nikki Williams.

Co-Lin	**70**
EC men	**64**

The Warriors jumped out to a 10-2 lead in the first five minutes and held a 28-22 advantage going into halftime.

The Wolves used an 11-4 run to start the second half to go up 33-32.

After EC took its final lead at 47-45 on a goaltending call on a shot by Marquis Wilson, 6-foot-8 sophomore Greg Truvillion of Lansing, Mich., took over for the Wolves. He scored 15 points over the final 6:52, including a 13-of-16 showing at the free throw line.

Wilson had 16 points to lead EC (7-13, 3-7). Brandon Shelton and Earnesto Green both scored 14.

Co-Lin (15-5, 8-2) was paced by Truvillion's game-high 27 points.

WEEK OF Feb. 12/07

ECCC women roll past Hinds

East Central Community College outscored homestanding Hinds by a dozen points in the second half Thursday night, pulling away for an 81-59 win in junior college women's basketball action.

The Lady Warriors improved to 15-7 overall and 7-5 in South Division action. ECCC will host Gulf Coast Monday.

Former Lake standout Valerie Harris pumped in 22 points to lead the Lady Warriors Thursday, while Tanesha Brown scored 12.

DeAundria Singleton led a balanced scoring attack for Hinds, which got 12 points apiece from Chiquita Harrison and Candance Johnson and 10 from Apryl Trimble.

ECCC led 37-27 at halftime.

— Rocky Higginbotham

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF Feb 17/07

ECCC women take win over Gulf Coast

By Marty Stamper
special to The Star

DECATUR — With Tanesha Brown and Andrea Dubose combining for 57 points, the East Central Community College Lady Warriors moved into third place in the MACJC South Division standings with a 93-89 win over Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Monday night.

ECCC improved to 8-5 in the division and 16-7 overall. Going into Monday, Copiah-Lincoln was in first place at 11-1, followed by Jones at 9-3. The Lady Warriors' win, coupled with Meridian Community College's 74-66 victory over Southwest Mississippi, left both MCC and Southwest in a tie for fourth at 7-6 with one league game remaining.

The Lady Warriors wrap up the regular season Thursday at Pearl River.

"It could still be a three-way tie," ECCC coach Billy Smith said. "Southwest has got the tiebreaker over us and we've got the tiebreaker over Meridian.

"The South Division is by far the tougher of the two divisions. If we can manage to be in the top four of it, that's a pretty good deal for us."

ECCC took a 43-36 lead over Gulf Coast into halftime behind 20 points from Brown, who nailed four 3-point baskets in the first 20 minutes.

Brown, a freshman from Jackson Provine, finished with seven treys and 31 points.

"She hit some big shots in the second half and kinda got us going a little bit," Smith said.

"We would have liked to have stayed a little further ahead of them, but they hit some tough shots against the zone, then when we went back man, they made several natural three-point plays and got back in the ballgame. We just hit some free throws down the stretch to keep the lead."

ECCC got 26 points from Dubose, who also had a good night behind the arc.

"When the 3s are falling, we can shoot with anybody," Smith said.

The Lady Warriors also got 11 points from Valerie Harris, who came into the game ranked ninth nationally in scoring at 19.8 points per game and 25th in field goal percentage.

Gulf Coast (8-16, 3-10) placed five players in double figures with Carrie Dawson scoring 21, Sandy Thompson and Valencia Rice both getting 17, Ja'net Schonberg adding 13 and Leatrice Ulmer scoring 11.

Gulf Coast	**81**
ECCC men	**72**

The Warriors fell behind early as the Bulldogs led by as many as 16 points before taking a 43-29 lead into halftime.

ECCC closed to within 62-57 on a tip in by Marquis Wilson with 8:15 remaining and fought to within 70-67 on a basket by Darron Maxtion with 4:43 showing.

The Warriors had two misses and a turnover on their next two possessions, but still got to within 70-68 on a free throw by Earnesto Green with 3:18 to go.

Gulf Coast made 3-of-4 free throws over the next minute and got a dunk from Ronald Douglas with 1:53 left to extend its lead to 75-68.

Green led ECCC (7-16, 3-10) with 23 points. Wilson scored 14, Bryan Johnson had 10 and Caleb Pearson made three 3-pointers in a nine-point night.

Division champion Gulf Coast (19-5, 12-1) got 21 points from Henry Salter, 13 from Lee Trebotich, nine from A.J. Hunt, and eight each from Douglas, Luther Suggs and Carlos Wright.

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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WEEK OF Feb. 26/07

Disappointing basketball seasons winding down at EC

Regular season action ended on a disappointing note for East Central Community College basketball squads as the Lady Warriors and Warriors fell to Pearl River Community College Thursday night on the Poplarville campus.

The EC women- who earlier clinched a spot in the MACJC and Region 23 Tournaments – dropped an 84-82 decision to the Lady Wildcats followed by the Warriors' 84-68 setback to the PRC men.

The Lady Warriors, whose record stands at 16-8 overall and 8-6 in the MACJC South Division standings under second-year head coach Billy Smith, were led by Jackson Provine product Tanesha Brown who pumped in 17 points.

Also scoring were Andrea Dubose of Newton County, 13; Valerie Harris of Lake and Jessica Anderson and Tawaytha Evans, both of Newton, 10 each; and Beverly Hutchinson, a product of Lee High School in Baton Rouge, two.

EC trailed 35-29 at the break.

In the men's contest, the Warriors and Wildcats were tied 38-38 at halftime but the host team took charge in the final period by outscoring EC by a 16-point margin.

Marquis Wilson, a former standout at Delhi (La.) High School, poured in 21 points to lead EC, which finished 7-17 overall and 3-11 in league play under first-year head coach Maurice Bowie.

Also scoring were Bryan Johnson of Provine, 14; Brandon Shelton of Newton, eight; Chris Brown of Hattiesburg, Earnesto Green of Provine, Caleb Pearson of Richland and Darron Maxtion, a product of Sparkman High School in Harvest, Ala., five each; Mike Presendieu, a product of New Dimension HS in Orlando, three; and Craig Pruitt of Newton County, two.

The Lady Warriors, the number four seed, face top-seeded Northeast Mississippi Community College at 3:15 Monday in first-round action of the MACJC Tournament, hosted by Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Wesson.

The winner takes on the Jones-Itawamba victor at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday.

Finals in the women's division are set for 6 p.m. Thursday.

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WEEK OF Feb. 26/07

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Lady Warriors clinch state

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

A 93-89 win over Mississippi Gulf Coast secured a berth in this week's MACJC State Tournament for the East Central Community College Lady Warriors.

The state tournament is being played at Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Wesson.

EC, 16-8, faced Northeast Mississippi, 16-6, on Monday with that winner playing the Jones-Itawamba winner today at 1:30 p.m. EC defeated Northeast twice during the regular season.

Finals are set for 6 p.m. Thursday.

The EC men lost to Gulf Coast and Pearl River to end their year with a 7-17 mark.

EC women	**93**
Gulf Coast	**89**

Tanesha Brown and Andrea Dubose combined for 57 points as the Lady Warriors defeated Gulf Coast on Feb. 19 at Decatur

EC improved to 8-5 in the division and 16-7 overall.

"The South Division is by far the tougher of the two divisions. If we can manage to be in the top four of it, that's a pretty good deal for us," EC coach Billy Smith said.

EC took a 43-36 lead into halftime behind 20 points from Brown, who nailed four 3-point baskets in the first 20 minutes.

Brown, a freshman from Jackson Provine, finished with seven treys and 31 points.

"She hit some big shots in the second half and kinda got us going a little bit," Smith said.

"We would have liked to have stayed a little further ahead of them, but they hit some tough shots against the zone, then when we went back man, they made several natural three-point plays and got back in the ballgame. We just hit some free throws down the stretch to keep the lead."

EC got 26 points from Dubose, who also had a good night behind the arc.

"When the 3s are falling, we can shoot with anybody," Smith said.

The Lady Warriors also got 11 points from Valerie Harris, who came into the game ranked ninth nationally in scoring at 19.8 points per game and 25th in field goal percentage.

Gulf Coast (8-16, 3-10) placed five players in double figures with Carrie Dawson scoring 21, Sandy Thompson and Valencia Rice both getting 17, Ja'net Schonberg adding 13 and Leatrice Ulmer scoring 11.

Gulf Coast	**81**
EC men	**72**

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ECCC closed to within 62-57 on a tip in by Marquis Wilson with 8:15 remaining and fought to within 70-67 on a basket by Darron Maxtion with 4:43 showing.

The Warriors had two misses and a turnover on their next two possessions, but still got to within 70-68 on a free throw by Earnesto Green with 3:18 to go.

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Feb. 26/07

tourney berth

to extend its lead to 75-68.

Green led EC (7-16, 3-10) with 23 points. Wilson scored 14, Bryan Johnson had 10 and Caleb Pearson made three 3-pointers in a nine-point night.

Division champion Gulf Coast (19-5, 12-1) got 21 points from Henry Salter, 13 from Lee Trebotich, nine from A.J. Hunt, and eight each from Douglas, Luther Suggs and Carlos Wright.

Pearl River 64
EC women 62

Pearl River took a 35-29 lead into halftime in winning Thursday's matchup at Poplarville.

Tanesa Brown led EC (16-8, 8-6) with 17 points. Andrea Dubose scored 13, and Valerie Harris, Jessica Anderson, and Tawaytha Evans each had 10.

Pearl River (13-12, 6-8) got 18 points from Shonderlette Paul, 12 from Sherrion Thomas, and nine from Ziena Husband.

Pearl River 84
EC men 68

The Wildcats outscored the Warriors 46-30 in the second half to pull away Thursday at Poplarville.

The teams were even at 38 going into halftime.

EC finished 7-17 overall and 3-11 in division play.

Marquis Wilson led EC with 21 points. Bryan Johnson added 14, Brandon Shelton scored eight, while Chris Brown, Earnesto Green, Caleb Pearson, and Darron Maxtion each added five.

Wesley Jones led Pearl River (15-10, 9-5) with 16 points. Brandon Payne scored 14, Chazz Hawkins and James Williams both had 12, and Chasen Uptain added 10.

WEEK OF Feb. 26/07
cont'd →

EC Lady Warriors fall in state tourney

Special to The Record

Late three-pointers by Andrea Dubose and Tawaytha Evans were not enough to lift East Central Community College to victory in first-round action of the MACJC State Basketball Tournament, and Northeast Mississippi Community College held on for a 71-66 decision Monday afternoon in the four-day event hosted by Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Wesson.

The Lady Warriors, who led 32-27 at halftime, trailed 66-60 until Dubose drained a trey with 30.6 seconds remaining. Free throws by Lady Tiger Whitney Mayes pushed the Lady Tiger lead to 68-63, and after a missed three-pointer by EC's Jordan Patterson followed by missed free-throws by Jessica Bender of Northeast, Evans connected from three-point range to cut the Lady Tiger's lead to 68-66 with 9.8 seconds remaining.

Lady Tiger Erica Harvell

See **ECCC**, Page 3B

East Central women fall at state tourney

■ The East Central Community College women's basketball team couldn't hold onto their first half lead as they fell to Northeast Mississippi in the opening round of the state junior college tournament.

– Page 1B

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OTHER _____

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IMPACT _____

WEEK OF March 5/07
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Region XXIII Tourney: Co-Lin 66, East Central women 64

East Central comeback falls short against Co-Lin

By Jeff Edwards
assistant sports editor

CLINTON — The East Central Lady Warriors have made a habit of losing close games this season. The Region 23 Tournament was no different.

The Lady Warriors came back from a 12-point second-half deficit but still dropped a 66-64 decision against Copiah-Lincoln in the tournament quarterfinals at A.E. Wood Coliseum on the Mississippi College campus, ending their season with a 16-10 record. Seven of ECCC's 10 losses were by two points or less.

"It's just one of those things," Lady Warrior coach Billy Smith said. "You win some and you lose some. That's just the way it goes."

> *It's just one of those things. You win some and you lose some. That's just the way it goes.*
>
> **Billy Smith, ECCC head coach**

East Central was down 64-59 with 90 seconds left before Tanesha Brown nailed a huge 3 with 1:12 remaining. Co-Lin's Hanna Porter then missed the front end of a one-and-one free throw situation and the Lady Warriors took advantage, tying the game when Valerie Harris got a pass inside and made a layup with a minute left.

After a Co-Lin turnover, ECCC had a chance to take the lead, but Harris was whistled for traveling with 17.1 seconds on the clock.

Co-Lin's Nikki Williams was fouled in the lane with 7.3 seconds left and made both of her free throws for the winning points. East Central turned the ball over in the final second before getting a shot off.

"We gave ourselves a chance to win at the end," Smith said. "It just wasn't to be."

The Lady Warriors trailed 31-29 at halftime, but Co-Lin steadily pulled away in the first 10 minutes of the second half. The Lady Wolves built their biggest lead of the game

See ECCC
Page B4

PHOTO BY PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

GOING IN BETWEEN

East Central Community College's Valerie Harris tries to squeeze between Copiah Lincoln defenders to put up a shot during the first half of action of the Region 23 Tournament at Mississippi College.

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WEEK OF March 5/07
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See ECCC
Page B4

PHOTO BY PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

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MERIDIAN STAR ✓
CLARION-LEDGER
MPACT

March 5/07

ECCC

From Page B1

at 55-43 when Alisha Mason scored with 9:45 remaining.

However, two consecutive 3-pointers by Andrea Dubose keyed the Lady Warrior comeback, as they reeled off a 14-2 run over the next 5 minutes.

Two free throws by Harris tied the score at 59 with 4:31 remaining.

"I'm proud of the team because we could have given up when we got down 12 points in the second half," Smith said. "But we played hard and scrapped back into the game. We picked up our defense and got some 3-point shots to fall for us in the second half."

After tying the game, the Lady Warriors went scoreless for the next 3:19 as Co-Lin scored the next five points to take a 64-59 lead.

"We were glad to be here and played very hard," Smith said.

The loss spoiled a splendid final game for Harris. The Lake sophomore scored 24 points in the losing effort. Dubose, a former Newton County standout, was the only other Lady Warrior in double figures, chipping in 15 points.

Co-Lin was led by Williams' 17 points, while Erica Trahan scored 10. The Lady Wolves meet Southern-Shreveport in tonight's 6 p.m. semifinal.

WEEK OF March 5/07

Lady Warriors fall 71-66 to Northeast in state

from school reports

Late 3-pointers by Andrea Dubose and Tawaytha Evans were not enough to lift East Central Community College to victory in first-round action of the MACJC State Basketball Tournament, and Northeast Mississippi Community College held on for a 71-66 decision on Feb. 26 in the four-day event hosted by Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Wesson.

The Lady Warriors have now set their sights on the Region 23 Tournament scheduled Monday-Thursday at Mississippi College in Clinton. The Lady Warriors opened with Copiah-Lincoln on Tuesday.

The Region 23 Tournament winner will advance to the women's national championship tournament at Salina, Kan.

EC tournament games can be heard on KICKS 98 (98.3 FM).

In the state tournament, the Lady Warriors, who led 32-27 at halftime, trailed 66-60 until Dubose drained a trey with 30.6 seconds remaining.

Free throws by Lady Tiger Whitney Mayes pushed the Northeast lead to 68-63, and after a missed 3-pointer by EC's Jordan Patterson followed by missed free throws by Jessica Bender of Northeast, Evans connected from 3-point range to cut the Lady Tigers' lead to 68-66 with 9.8 seconds remaining.

Erica Harvell gave Northeast a 69-66 advantage after making one of two free throws with 9.1 seconds left, and EC was set up for a possible game-tying 3-pointer until a turnover and subsequent foul on Mayes — who sank both free throws with 3.1 seconds remaining — preserved the Lady Tiger victory.

Women's Region 23 Tournament
at Mississippi College
Tuesday, March 6
noon — Itawamba vs. Southern-Shreveport
2:00 p.m. — East Central vs. Co-Lin
6:00 p.m. — Meridian vs. Northeast Mississippi
8:00 p.m. — Jones vs. Miss. Delta
Wednesday, March 7
6:00 p.m. — East Central-Co-Lin winner vs. Itawamba-Southern Shreveport winner
8:00 p.m. — Meridian-Northeast winner vs. Jones-Delta winner
Thursday, March 8
6:00 p.m. — Championship

opener

Valerie Harris of Lake had 23 points to lead EC, which fell to 16-9 under second-year head coach Billy Smith.

Also scoring for the Lady Warriors were Tanesha Brown with 12, Jessica Anderson and Katherine Taylor with eight each, Evans with seven, and Dubose with five.

Northeast, which improved to 17-6, went on to win the state tournament by defeating Itawamba 60-56 in the semifinals and tournament host Copiah-Lincoln 64-51 in the championship contest.

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____
SPIRIT OF MORTON _____
OTHER _____

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IMPACT _____

WEEK OF March 26/07

MACJC JUCO all-star teams announced

from special reports

Community and junior college basketball players from throughout the state of Mississippi will have an opportunity to showcase their talents when the MACJC All-Star Basketball Games are held April 13.

Choctaw Central High School is again serving as host site for the annual event, which is sponsored by the Pearl River Resort, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, Pepsi, Mississippi Sports Medicine and East Central Community College in Decatur.

Tip-off times are 6 p.m. for the women's contest followed by men's action at 8 p.m. Admission is $6 per person.

Each squad includes 12 All-Stars selected by their respective coaches.

Members of the South women's team include Nicki Williams and Erica Trahan, both of Co-Lin; Valerie Harris and Andrea Dubose, both of East Central; Sandy Thompson, Gulf Coast; Tiffany Hill, Hinds; Kelsey Hopkins and Rosemary Green, both of Jones; Holly Dial, Meridian; Zena Husband, Pearl River; and Carmiel Gamble and Coneita Cutrer, both of Southwest.

Serving as head coach is Ed Walley of Pearl River.

The North women's team includes Omeshia Forst, Coahoma; Sade' Coates and Danielle Baldwin, both of East Mississippi; Myeshia Johnson and Shay White, both of Holmes; Shamekia Boyce and Cara Harris, both of Itawamba; Lashundreya Townsend and Tawanna Marshall, both of Mississippi Delta; Krystal Robinson and Whitney Mayes, both of Northeast; and LaMaesha McAdory, Northwest.

Serving as head coach is Ricky Ford of Northeast.

Members of the South men's squad are Zach Thomas and Christian Marshall, both of Co-Lin; Earnesto Green, East Central; Carlos Wright, Henry Salter and Ronald Douglas, all of Gulf Coast; Flawaan Flags and James Burkes, both of Hinds; James Bender, Jones; Dexter Leflore, Meridian; Wesley Jones, Pearl River; and Bobby Steptoe, Southwest.

Richard Mathis of Pearl River serves as head coach.

The North men's team includes Lenzell Cole, Coahoma; Cornelius Miles, East Mississippi; Jeremy Cable, Richard Worthy and Dean Hardley, all of Holmes; Tim Green, Larricus Brown and Dell Coleman, all of Itawamba; Dexter Williams, Mississippi Delta; and Jeremy Anderson, Northeast; and Justin Nabors and Antonio Longwood, all of Northwest.

David Robbins of Northeast serves as head coach.

For more information contact ECCC basketball coaches Billy Smith (ext. 243) or Maurice Bowie (ext. 372) at 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222. The email addresses are bsmith@eccc.edu and mbowie@eccc.edu.

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IMPACT _____

WEEK OF April 2/07

Sophomore Lady Warriors honored

Special recognition was given sophomore members of the East Central Community College women's basketball team during the team's final home game for 2006-07, including, from left, Dominique Shelmire, Andrea Dubose, Valerie Harris, Kasendra Overstreet, South Leake High School, and Lakeshia Bobbitt, Scott Central, managers; Constance Hayes, and Jessica Anderson, joined by family members during the ceremony. The Lady Warriors advanced to the MACJC and Region 23 tournaments and finished with a 16-10 mark.

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OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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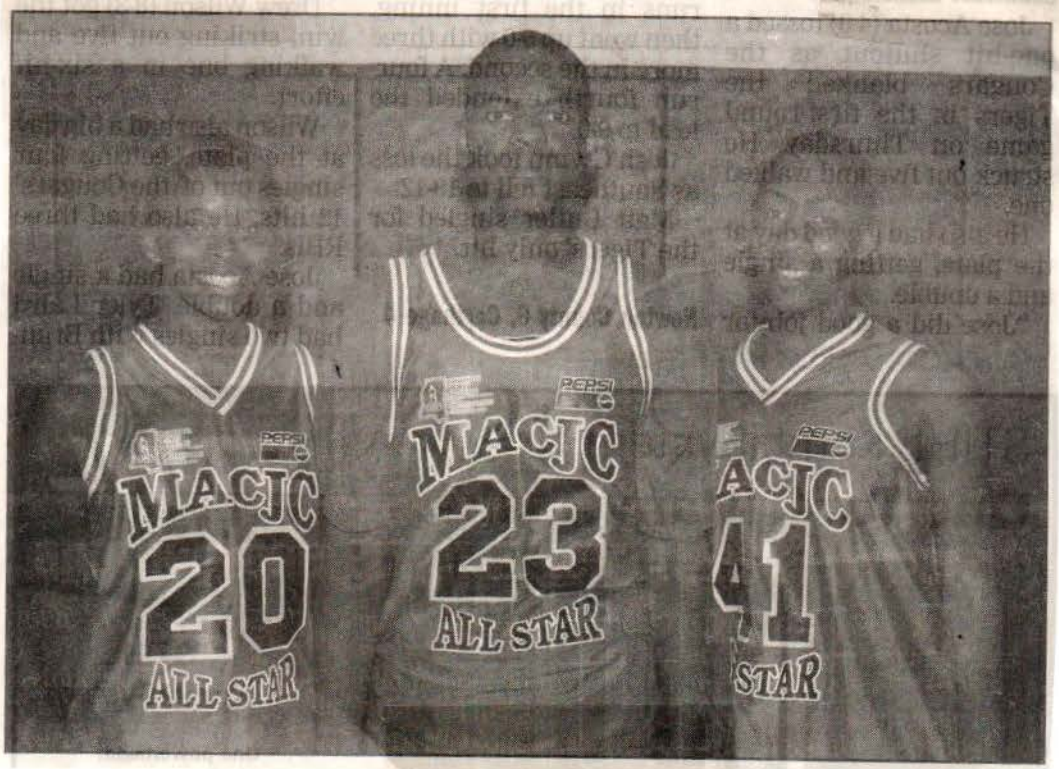
WEEK OF 4-16-07



ECCC basketball all-stars

Representing East Central Community College in the MACJC All-Star Basketball Games held April 13 were South squad members (from left) Andrea Dubose, a product of Newton County High School; Ernesto Green of Jackson Provine; and Valerie Harris of Lake. Harris scored 11 points and Dubose added six in the South's 86-82 loss to the North All-Stars, and Green poured in 10 points for the South men who fell 139-110 to the North. The annual All-Star games are held at Choctaw Central High School and sponsored by Pearl River Resort, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, Pepsi, Mississippi Sports Medicine and East Central Community College in Decatur.

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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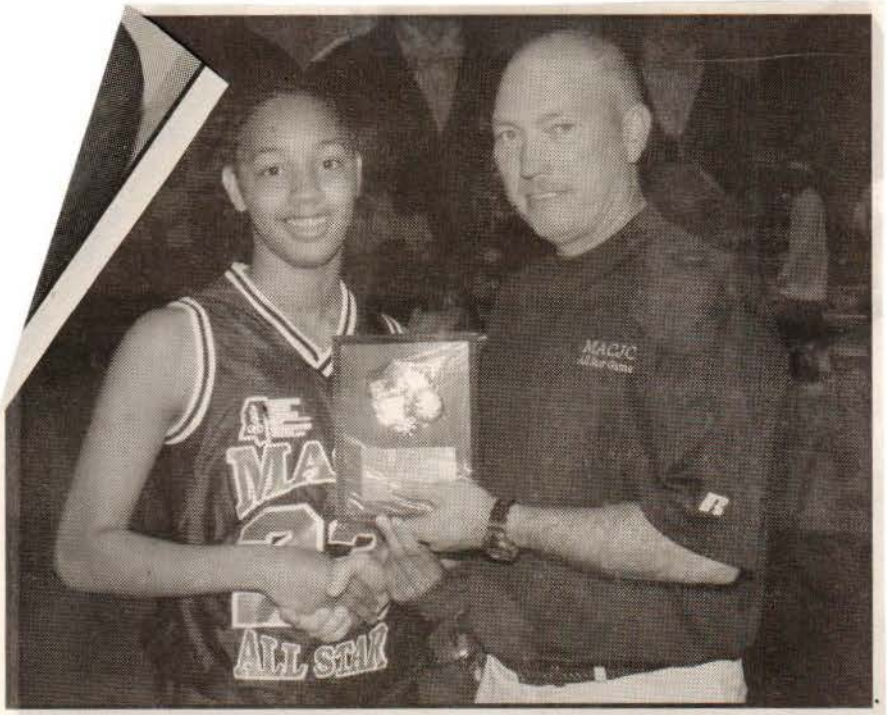
WEEK OF 5-21-07



White named MVP of All-Star Game

Shae White (left) of Holmes Community College received most valuable player honors after leading the North All-Stars to an 86-82 win over the South squad in the MACJC All-Star Basketball Games held Friday night at Choctaw Central High School near Philadelphia. White, who led all scorers with 17 points, is shown receiving the award from Bill Smith, women's head basketball coach at East Central Community College in Decatur, which sponsors the annual event along with the Pearl River Resort, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, Pepsi and Mississippi Sports Medicine. (EC Photo)

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UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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OTHER ✓ The Growl

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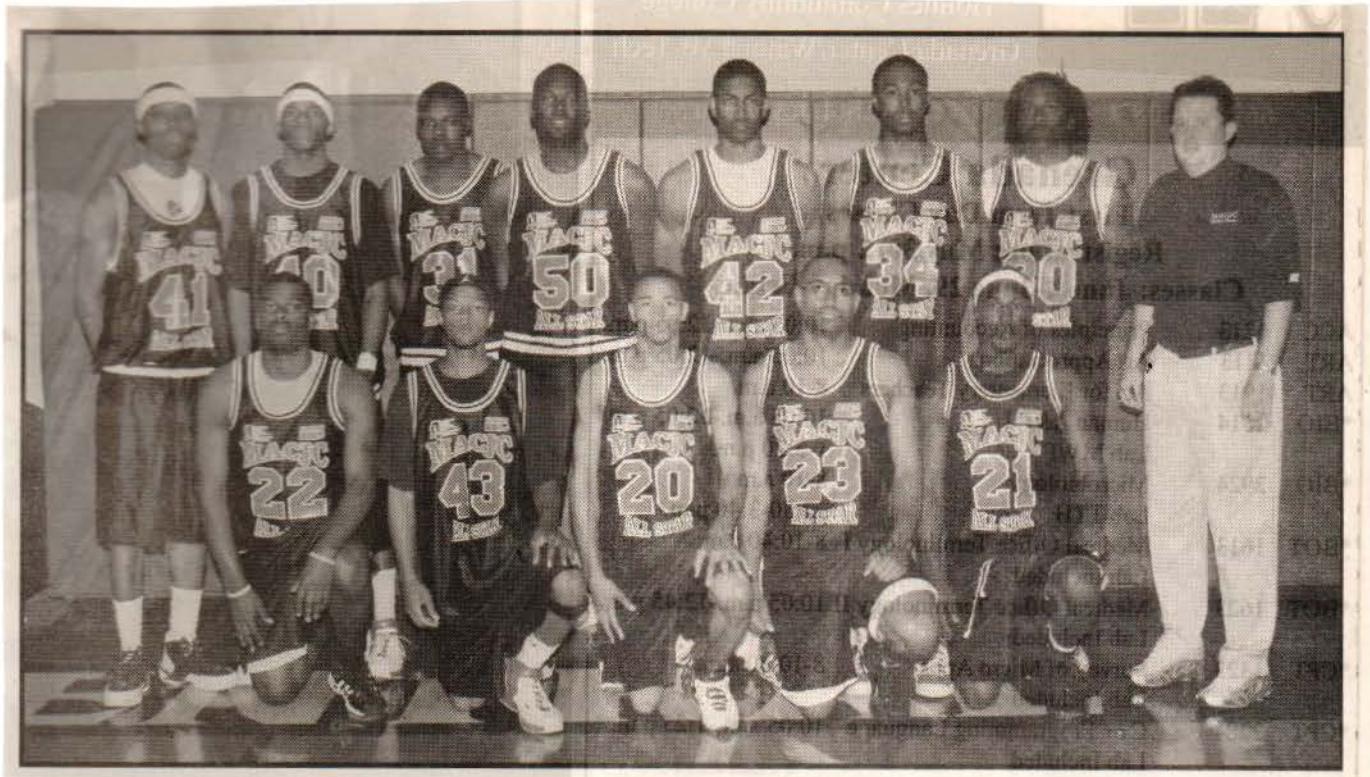
WEEK OF 5-21-07



North Men All-Star Team

Pictured are members of the MACJC North Division women's squad who participated in the annual All-Star Basketball Games held April 13 at Choctaw Central High School near Philadelphia. Kneeling from left are (33) Omeshia Frost, Coahoma; (30) Shameika Boyce, Itawamba; (23) Shae White and (22) Myeshia Johnson, both of Holmes; (10) Whitney Mayes, Northeast; (31) LaShundra Boyce, Itawamba; and (20) Danielle Baldwin, East Mississippi. Standing from left are assistant coach Maurice Stanford, Northeast; (34) Krystal Robinson, Northeast; (44) LaMaesha McAdory, Northwest; (43) Sade' Coates, East Mississippi; (41) Tiawana Marshall, Mississippi Delta; (42) Tacarra Harris, Itawamba; and head coach Ricky Ford of Northeast. The North team defeated the South All-Stars 86-82. The MACJC All-Star Games are sponsored by the Pearl River Resort, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, Pepsi, Mississippi Sports Medicine and East Central Community College in Decatur. (EC Photo)

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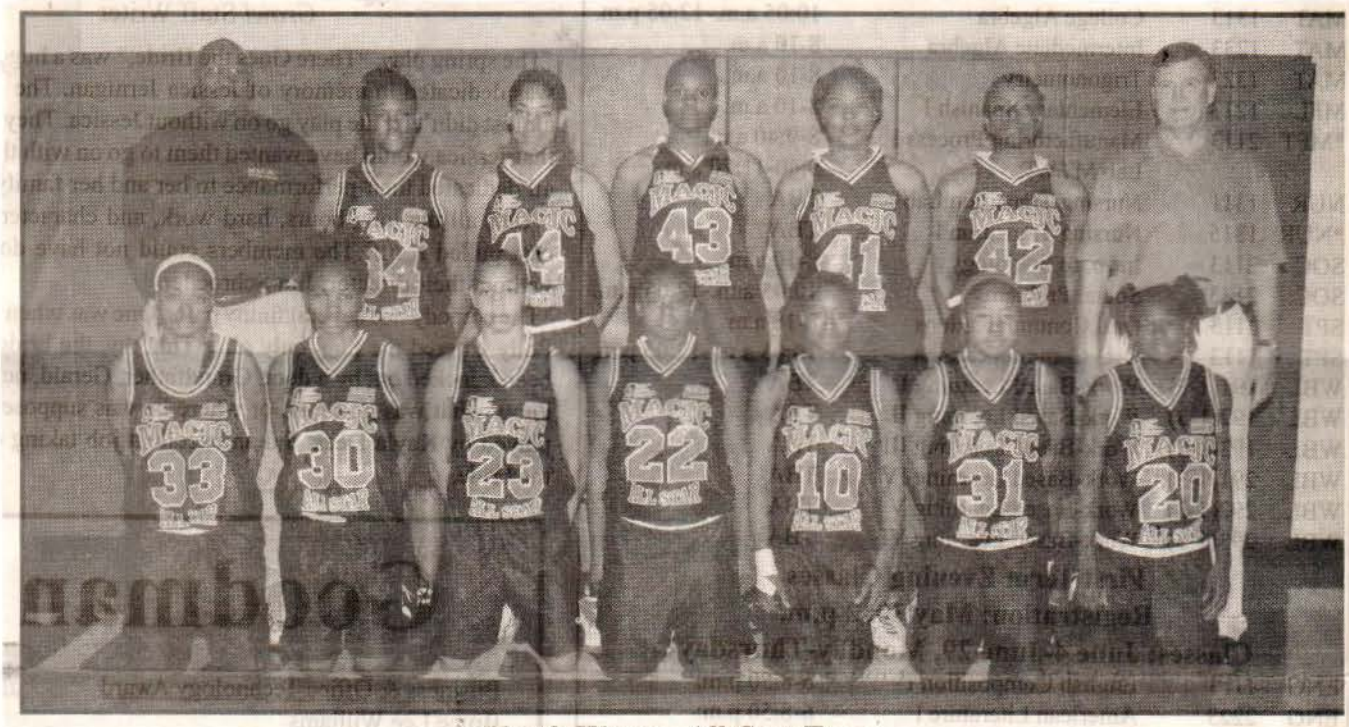
5-21-07



North Women All-Star Team

Pictured are members of the MACJC North Division women's squad who participated in the annual All-Star Basketball Games held April 13 at Choctaw Central High School near Philadelphia. Kneeling from left are (33) Omeshia Frost, Coahoma; (30) Shameika Boyce, Itawamba; (23) Shae White and (22) Myeshia Johnson, both of Holmes; (10) Whitney Mayes, Northeast; (31) LaShundra Boyce, Itawamba; and (20) Danielle Baldwin, East Mississippi. Standing from left are assistant coach Maurice Stanford, Northeast; (34) Krystal Robinson, Northeast; (44) LaMaesha McAdory, Northwest; (43) Sade' Coates, East Mississippi; (41) Tiawana Marshall, Mississippi Delta; (42) Tacarra Harris, Itawamba; and head coach Ricky Ford of Northeast. The North team defeated the South All-Stars 86-82. The MACJC All-Star Games are sponsored by the Pearl River Resort, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, Pepsi, Mississippi Sports Medicine and East Central Community College in Decatur. (EC Photo)

WEEK OF June 4, 2007

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

RECEIVE ECCC WOMEN'S BASKETBALL AWARDS: These members of the East Central Community College women's basketball team received various honors for the 2006-07 campaign, which were presented at the Spring Sports Banquet held on the Decatur campus. From left are Constance Hayes, a product of Jackson Provine, hustle award; Tenesha Brown, also of Provine, most improved; Valerie Harris of Lake, most valuable offensive player, All-Region 23 Tournament Team, All-Region 23 and first team All-State; Andrea Dubose of Newton County High School, scholar athlete and most valuable defensive player; and Erin Watkins of Newton County Academy, Lady Warrior award. The Lady Warriors advanced to the MACJC and Region 23 tournaments en route to a 16-10 record. The awards were presented by ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin and Lady Warrior head coach Bill Smith.

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